

THE TIMES Tomorrow

The right line
Tips for BT's novice investors who are considering selling for a quick profit

Village life
The historian who takes the lid off small-town French society

Well covered
The insurance you need for a steady income during illness

Red threat
Liverpool's hopes in the world club championship match against Argentina's Independiente

Portfolio

The Times Portfolio competition prize of £2,000 was shared by two winners yesterday. Mr. Grenville Paul of Sidcup, Kent and Mr. Peter Brown of Paffborough, West Sussex, each receives £1,000. Portfolio list, page 18; how to play, information service, back page.

Union threat to benefit payments

A claim for an extra £15 a week, backed by the threat of an all-out strike, which could halt all benefit payments has set the Civil and Public Services Association on a collision course with the Government.

Curfew clamped on Colombo

The Sri Lankan Government declared a night curfew in Colombo and ordered troops to shoot trouble makers on sight to prevent a backlash by the capital's mainly Sinhalese inhabitants against the Tamil minority.

BR 'in the pink'

British Rail is to decorate the inside of first class Inter City carriages pink as part of a package to make services more attractive and profitable.

Euro-link cash

A £4.4 billion cross-channel link between Britain and France could be funded by a British Telecom type flotation, according to Sir Nigel Brookes, new British chairman of the Anglo-French consortium Eurotunnel.

Painter elected

Mr Roger de Grey, the painter, who was favoured to succeed Sir Hugh Casson as president of the Royal Academy, has had his election approved by the Queen.

Air sale mooted

Shorts, the Belfast aircraft manufacturer, may be a candidate for privatisation, Mr Douglas Hurd, the Northern Ireland Secretary, announced in a Commons written reply.

Acid rebels

Fury MEPs are openly defying Mrs Thatcher by joining the attack on Britain's policy over acid rain.

Commons break

The House of Commons will rise for the Christmas recess on Friday, December 21, and return on Wednesday, January 9, the Government announced yesterday.

Champion loses

Martina Navratilova was beaten in the Australian Open 1-6, 6-3, 7-5, by Helena Sukova, of Czechoslovakia, her first defeat in 75 games.

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Letters: On Tory troubles, from Mr M. Lings; pensions, from Mr Leif Mills; British Council, from Sir John Burgh
Leading articles: Economics of coal; Bhopal disaster; Independent prosecution service
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Business to Business, cars

Thatcher says tax cuts are needed to tackle poverty

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Prime Minister and the Chancellor of the Exchequer yesterday underlined the Government's commitment to cut taxation in next year's budget by raising thresholds to take more people out of paying income tax.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher responded to the growing expression of doubts on the Conservative back benches about the Government's tax-cutting strategy, doubts strengthened by the disputes over overseas aid and student grants, by emphasizing twice in the Commons that reductions in taxation were needed to tackle the poverty trap.

"There is a great need to lift taxation at the threshold to help those on conservatively low wages and to increase the gap between those on social security and those on earnings," she said.

Later, opening the debate on his autumn economic statement, Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, reaffirmed the likelihood of tax cuts worth £1,500 million in the budget. He too clearly laid the emphasis on raising thresholds.

Their restatement of a central tenet of the Government's economic strategy came as an increasing number of Conservative MPs have called on the Government to forget about tax cuts and use any surplus revenue on direct measures to stimulate employment. They did so again in yesterday's debate.

It came also as the all-party Treasury select-committee, in a critical report published yesterday, questioned Mr Lawson's calculations that he would have room for tax cuts next year of the order of £1,500 million.

As the opposition parties sought to make the most of what they thought was her discomfiture over the education grants repeal, Mrs Thatcher had to make clear to one of her own backbenchers, Sir Kenneth Lewis, MP for Stamford and Spalding, that the additional money made available by the Treasury could not be seen as a prelude to relaxations elsewhere. "We have to take steps to contain public expenditure," she said.

She reacted angrily to Mr Neil Kinnock's charge that the Government had robbed science to save its own skin by defending its record of research funding and stating that the biggest expenditure cuts in the past 10 years had come under the Labour Government.

Mr Lawson said that the Government by having a firm grip on public spending, holding it broadly constant in real terms over a period of years, would have progressive scope for reductions in taxation not just for the few but for the many. That had been achieved by tax threshold increases well ahead of inflation and he hoped to continue to do so.

But the strength of the opposition to that objective on his own side was made swiftly plain to Mr Lawson by the support given to the interventions by Mr Peter Tapsell, Conservative MP for Lindsey East, who said that if he cut £1,500 million off taxes most of it would be spent on imports, whereas if he invested the same amount in selective capital projects he would be creating jobs.

Mr Roy Hattersley, the shadow chancellor, accused the Government of having no policy to deal with unemployment. Conservative MPs had misjudged the mood of the country if they believed people preferred tax cuts to seeing something done about the jobless total, he said.

But it will be the continuing reservations on their own back benches that will be of most concern to ministers. Mr Terence Higgins, Conservative MP for Worthing and the chairman of the Treasury select committee, immediately voiced uncertainty over the Prime Minister's emphasis on raising tax thresholds. He said it would be a mistake to suppose that could be done on a sufficient scale to make a serious impact on the poverty trap.

Mr Lawson said during the debate that the Government's policies were calculated to improve the prospects of jobs that could be sustained into the future. No party would deliberately foster an increase in unemployment, he said.



Mrs Chalker launching the drink-driving slogan yesterday. (Photograph: Chris Harris).

'Stay low' anti-drink campaign attacked

The Government's Christmas campaign against drunken drivers ran into a mixed reception when it was launched yesterday. There were claims that it encouraged drinking.

The campaign, aimed specifically at teenagers, uses the slogan "Stay low or you might live to regret it."

The British Medical Association said that they preferred the "all-embracing advice that drivers should not touch alcohol at all."

Scottish police forces have also criticized the new campaign, saying that its slogan invited drivers to have a drink.

The Minister of State for Transport, Mrs Lynda Chalker, defended the theme as realistic and sensible.

"The message has got to be believable. You can't preach at young people or be authoritarian about this. I hope the campaign will be an effective new initiative in dealing with one of the biggest menaces on the roads."

Mrs Chalker added: "Of course, the only safe message is to have zero drink if you drive. We are trying to be realistic. We are not saying prohibition, that's not the law. What we are doing is educating people to think."

The BMA said: "The latest campaign shows someone putting their hand on a pint glass as if it had already been full once."

"It is really suggesting that you can have a few, and it is dangerous for young people, who may not be used to alcohol or to driving."

The AA was equally firm: "If you are going to drive don't drink, and if you are going to drink don't drive."

"We accept what Lynda Chalker meant when she said you cannot lecture young people because they will immediately reject it. But at the end of the day you wouldn't expect us to say anything other than 'don't drink and drive'."

The £1.15 million campaign uses three posters, showing young people crippled in road accidents caused by drink-driving. One, "Steve's Saturday on the terrace", shows a young man in a wheelchair on the steps of a nursing home.

Mrs Chalker said: "I have had sight of these posters for a long time - and I still shudder when I look at them."

Negligence case is filed against Union Carbide

The government of the state of Madhya Pradesh yesterday filed a case of criminal negligence against the local subsidiary of Union Carbide, owners of the pesticide factory where more than 2,000 people have died after Monday's leak of poisonous gas.

Members of the Indian Central Bureau of Investigation seized factory records and told officials not to leave. Soon after the leak, it was learned yesterday, police arrested five officials at the plant responsible for maintenance of the gas tanks.

Under Indian law, police in the state capital of Bhopal, where the tragedy occurred, will investigate before deciding whether to prosecute.

Police refused to allow Mr Warren Woerner, an American executive of the company, and an investigative team, to enter the factory yesterday, and placed a guard on the badly-gassed Mr Shazek Ahmed, the only employee in the plant when the gas leaked from a 45-ton underground storage tank at midnight.

Kanak's fight goes on, says man in Jaws shirt

From Alan Hamilton
Nogales, New Caledonia

It had been an idyllic drive. The mountain road snaked up from the hibiscus-heavy plain, through lush tropical forest and alongside green patches where silky brown cattle ruminated in the midday sun. Far below were the turquoise waters of the white sand, while the energetic boat on the clear green water of the lagoon.

When Captain Cook named it New Caledonia in 1774, he had almost never been to Scotland, as it was raining that day.

The first sign of trouble was a massive tree whose overhanging boughs had been newly and savagely hacked, but had stubbornly refused to fall. Half a mile further on, a felled tree blocked three-quarters of the road. Edging past, its crisp, dead leaves yielded up a delicious scent of sandalwood.

Then another tree to squeeze past on the edge of a ravine, its rocks large and small scattered on the tarmac, and finally, round the next bend, a wall of earth-felled trees and rocks.

Breaking it would have required earth-moving machinery or heavy armour.

There was solitude and silence, but only for a moment.

Nine people have been killed, and three seriously injured in a night ambush at the remote New Caledonia village of Hienghene, 300 miles from the capital. All were Melanesians, members of the Kanak community. They were returning in two cars from a meeting when they were stopped by Europeans at a roadblock. Dynamite was thrown into one car and the men were shot as they tried to escape. Two of the dead were brothers of M Jean-Pierre Tjibao, Page 6

From within a thicket there sprang a large Kanak, woolly bearded and wearing a T-shirt depicting the cinema's most famous shark.

He was immediately followed by a dozen others, wearing nothing but shorts and the occasional gaudy shirt of the kind tourists bring back from Hawaii. None appeared to be carrying firearms, but Jaws carried a 2ft long wooden club and one of his henchmen wielded a rusty machete of equal size. None of them looked happy.

Looking into the bushes whence they had sprung, a well-hidden yellow bulldozer was visible, bearing the name of a local French building contractor. Was there, one thought fleetingly, a cooking pot in there as well?

They crowded menacingly around the car, opened the boot and searched every glove pocket and under every seat. The smell of secondhand drink hung heavy in the air.

Jaws requested my passport; it was not a good moment to refuse. Just then another car drove up the valley, saw from a distance what was afoot, spun round in a cloud of red dust and raced back down the hill at top speed.

I asked Jaws who he and his friends were. "Independantistes" he replied, adding that they had manned the barricade for a fortnight and had cut off the village of Thio.

He and his men were under M Eloi Machoro, Minister of Security in the new and as yet unrecognized independent government, which is now almost a week old. M Machoro gained international fame during last month's local elections when he was photographed taking an axe to a ballot box.

"The very man I have come to see," I said in passable French. "I have here a laissez-passer from him allowing him to pass all the Kanak's roadblocks." "Bon," said Jaws, then pointed out with infuriating logic that a small piece of

Taxpayer bales out 'insolvent' oil giant

By David Young
Energy Correspondent

The British National Oil Corporation, the state-owned oil trading company, is technically insolvent and is being kept going only by £45 million of taxpayers' money, the Commons Energy Committee was told yesterday.

The reason is that Britain tried in vain to keep world oil prices high and maintain its earnings. But day-to-day dealings have brought down the price substantially.

The result is that BNOC has had to sell more than one third of its daily oil purchases from the North Sea at less than the price it paid in buying from the oil producers under three-month contracts.

BNOC is now looking at new ways of buying and selling the 51 per cent of North Sea oil output or 1.3 million barrels that it handles each day.

Since the summer, half of BNOC's term contract customers, who between them bought 400,000 barrels of North Sea crude a day, have switched to buying on the spot market.

The Department of Energy yesterday told the all-party select committee that on September 19 it gave BNOC an assurance that the Government would cover its losses.

However, the department said yesterday that since Parliament was in recess at the time it was not possible to give the customary 14 days notice.

The department told select committee: "It would not have been right to give the assurance until it became certain that the corporation would not be able to meet its losses from its own resources; but once that position was reached it was necessary to give the assurance quickly so that the corporation remained in a position to meet its commitments as they arose."

Mr Ian Goss, the BNOC chief executive, told the committee that increased reliance by the oil industry on the spot market was leading BNOC to review its system of buying and selling on three-month term contracts.

He said that BNOC had kept its price structure intact in July this year in an attempt to follow Opec moves to stabilize prices.

The decision then to keep the BNOC price at \$30 a barrel led to many of the corporation's customers moving to the spot market where prices were then marginally lower. The gap widened to almost \$2 a barrel and now stands at \$28.65 for the BNOC contract price and \$27.60 on the Rotterdam spot market.

Under participation agreements with the oil companies 500,000 barrels a day are bought by BNOC and immediately sold back to the companies. The remaining 800,000 barrels were previously sold on contract, but now half is being sold at a loss on the spot market.

Hijackers 'murder' four hostages

Tehran Reuter, AP) - The hijackers of a Kuwaiti airliner killed at least four of their hostages at Tehran airport yesterday, according to officials and witnesses.

The Iranian news agency, Irna, said one passenger, fled on to the gangway stairs outside the plane before the hijackers killed him with six shots, was a US consular employee in Pakistan.

The State Department in Washington said earlier that a passenger killed on Tuesday, the first day of the hijack, might have been one of three US officials on board the plane. Irna described how the consular employee was shot yesterday.

"At 3.50pm local time (12.20gmt), the hijackers brought out two passengers of the plane to the staircase of the aircraft and started counting down, threatening to kill them."

"One of the passengers requested a loudspeaker and pleaded with Kuwaiti officials to meet the demands of the hijackers. Otherwise, he said, the hijackers would kill him."

"The American passenger (the US consular employee), speaking through the loudspeaker, said: 'Tell the Kuwaiti authorities to provide the hijackers with a pilot and co-pilot because they are serious about their threats'."

About 10 minutes later, the agency said, the hijacker then killed the American passenger by firing his bullets."

The hijackers also threatened to blow up the plane, according to Irna, "although officials did not free their friends."

The Iranian agency has said the hijackers are seeking the release of a number of men jailed or sentenced to death in Kuwait for bombing the US and French embassies and other buildings a year ago.

The hijackers have demanded a fresh pilot and co-pilot, apparently so they can fly out of Tehran. One of the pilots on board the plane is a Briton, Harry Clark.

Law of the Sea treaty denied UK signature

Britain has finally decided to follow the United States and West Germany in refusing to sign the UN convention on the Law of the Sea (Henry Stanhope writes).

But, like the West Germans, it will not oppose signature by the European Community as a body.

Britain had hoped for improvements to the provisions on seabed mining but none has been forthcoming.

So far 138 countries have signed but only 14 have ratified it could be 10 years before the rest do.

Can you be happy this Christmas knowing he isn't?

For millions of children Christmas is something to look forward to. For thousands, though, it can prove just the beginning of another year of deprivation. We try our best, throughout the year, to tackle both the emotional and physical problems of these thousands. Unfortunately, we are unable to help them all. Not through any lack of willing. But because of lack of money. So please help us with a donation however small. To small children its effect won't be small.

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The Church of England Children's Society, Froopet, London SE14 4UR.

The Children's Society.

Pink carriages part of profit-making package on faster British Rail

By Michael Bailey, Transport Editor

British Rail's first class Inter City carriages will turn pink on the inside next year. The colour scheme is part of a package designed to turn an expected deficit of £98 million this year into a £5 million profit by 1989, its director, Mr Cyril Bleasdale, announced yesterday.

The new interior décor along with new red black and beige external livery, will coincide with a programme of cost-cutting, productivity improvements and new facilities for travellers. Second-class carriages will be decorated in red and green.

Inter city trains on the east and west coast lines will be quicker as a new generation of trains will have a maximum speed of 140 mph; a new fare structure will encourage more off-peak travel and cleaner,

more comfortable coaches will offer telephones and better catering. More stations will be without ticket checks.

As two-thirds of inter-city passengers start or end their journey in the South-east, plans are being considered for services to go straight through London. That would involve reopening the Snow Hill link between Blackfriars and Farringham in the City and upgrading a west London line to allow direct services from the North to Dover, Gatwick airport and Brighton.

More "parkway" stations at Doncaster, Didcot, Stockport, strategically placed close to motorways, and designed to stop the inter-city passenger being tempted to drive are planned.

But train mileage is to be

reduced by 10 per cent, after a 26 per cent reduction since 1980. Passenger traffic is expected to grow by 4 per cent, but trains will have extra coaches to compensate.

The £103 million saving, Mr Bleasdale said, would come from three areas: £31 million from increased revenue from higher fares and improved marketing; £25 million from redesigning the inter-city network and £47 million from reduced costs.

The package could mean worse service for passengers, Mr Len Dumbleton, secretary of the General Transport Consultative Committee, said. "In the drive to meet a tough financial target the advantages of fast, regular interval services between city centres are being sacrificed."

Tory rebels support TV levy for films

By Richard Evans, Lobby Reporter

The BBC and independent television companies face paying up to £20 million a year to support the British film industry after a Government defeat yesterday during the committee stage of the Films Bill.

Four Conservative MPs defied party whips and supported an amendment which would impose on television companies a levy on feature films, based on the size of audiences, to be passed on to film-makers.

The defeat came after bitter criticism of the Government's plan to provide only £15 million a year for the next five years, after the scrapping of the Eady levy and the National Film Finance Corporation.

Mr John Gort, Conservative MP for Hendon North, who proposed the levy, was supported on the Tory side by Mr Timothy Brinton, MP for Gravesend, Mr Jeremy Hanley, MP for Richmond and Barnes, and Mr Roger Gale, MP for Thanet North.

Although the amendment was strongly opposed by Mr Norman Lamont, Minister of State for Industry, it was passed. Mr Brinton said that the

supply of British films had been severely limited during the past decade, and without proper financial support they would disappear.

Mr Gale, a former television producer, said that television companies, and latterly, the video tape industry, had been "parasites" upon the film industry.

Mr Gerald Bermingham, Labour MP for St Helens South, said the levy "could bring in between £10 million and £20 million a year. This would provide the basic funding to help the British film industry."

The insertion of a call for a levy will delight the cinema industry, which has been remarkably united in calling for such a measure (David Hewson writes).

The Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians (ACTT) hopes that further amendments will be tabled to save off the ending of the Eady levy, the tax on cinema seats which is used to fund the National Film Finance Corporation. The Government wants to privatize the NFFC and abolish the levy.

Nash villa is sold for over £5m

By Our Property Correspondent

The Holme, Regent's Park, one of the finest houses in London, has been sold in conditions of the utmost secrecy to a private buyer for occupation as his London home at a price of more than £5 million.

Negotiations for the sale by Knight Frank and Rutley, on behalf of the Crown Estate Commissioners, have been in progress for some time "very privately" the agents say, and binding agreements for the sale were exchanged earlier this week.

The house, designed by Decimus Burton and completed in 1818, is one of the few remaining Nash villas in the park, and stands in 4.5 acres with a wide frontage to the lake. The lease reverted to the Crown from Bedford College recently.

Dole fraud money sought

The social security office in Torquay is taking steps to retrieve from 16 unemployed young people the £6,500 swindled in the "Costa del Dole" fraud admitted at Exeter Crown Court this week, even if it takes years.

The money was falsely claimed by the young people who said they were staying at an hotel and paying £44 bed and breakfast when they were, staying with friends or living rough.

Welsh protest student jailed

Nine Welsh language demonstrators, arrested when they occupied the City and Guilds Institute at Kings Cross, London, protesting at the lack of examinations in Welsh, appeared before magistrates at Clerkenwell yesterday.

Ceri Wyn, aged 26, a student from Aberystwyth was jailed for a week when he refused to be bound over to keep the peace. Eight others were bound over in the sum of £200 each. All admitted breach of the peace.

Siege charge man remanded

Michael Hood, aged 20, unemployed, appeared before Telford magistrates yesterday in connection with a two-day siege at the Norfolk town which ended on Wednesday.

Hood, from Rocklands, was remanded in custody for eight days, charged with illegal possession of a firearm with intent to endanger life.

Increased irrigation leads to potato gluts

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

The potato glut of the past few years is to a large extent the result of increased irrigation.

Until recently Britain was considered sufficiently wet for potato growing therefore obviating the need for expensive irrigation equipment. However, the Potato Marketing Board estimates that 28 per cent of this year's crop in England and Wales was irrigated.

The result has been a yield of 38.5 tonnes a hectare, compared with 31.2 last year and the previous record of 38.3 tonnes a hectare in 1982, when prices collapsed.

Other factors contributing to this year's surplus, estimated at 850,000 tonnes, were the excellent planting conditions that allowed good seed beds, and a degree of over-planting.

Growers, however, are subject to quotas and a levy if they exceed their allocation. However, many growers are prepared to pay the levy.

The cost to the taxpayer of the board's intervention into the market this year has been at least £18 million; the cost of taking 450,000 tonnes off the market, drying it and feeding it to pigs.

Inquest opens on victims of rail crash

An inquest was opened yesterday on the two people who died when an inter-city express crashed into a fuel tanker train in Salford, Greater Manchester, on Tuesday.

Evidence of identification was given at the brief hearing in Salford on Mr Edward Crox, aged 36, a train driver, of Mab Lane, West Derby, Liverpool, and Mr Samuel Kennedy, aged 72, a passenger, of Lindale Avenue, New Moston, Manchester.

Mr Croxford died in the wreckage of the train and Mr Kennedy in hospital later the same day.

Mr David Blakey, the Greater Manchester west district coroner, who described the crash as "terrible", provisionally adjourned the hearing until February 14 next.

Two passengers who had been admitted to hospital after the crash were still in the Hope hospital, Salford, yesterday.

Phone links for plane passengers

By Our Technology Correspondent

Telephones for passengers will be commonplace in aircraft within the next decade if plans for a \$500 million (£400 million) global satellite network are realized.

Investment in the network, which will begin operations in about four years' time, will be made by Inmarsat, the international maritime satellite organization, which represents 41 governments and was created about two years ago to co-ordinate and encourage maritime communication using satellites.

A new type of satellite will be required by Inmarsat to accommodate the aircraft communication. The new design would have about 80 channels, double present capacity. Two consortia are competing for the contract,

which is to be awarded next spring. They are British Aerospace/Hughes (USA) and Marconi/Ford Aerospace (USA).

The satellite system would offer airlines telephone and telex facilities for passengers; sophisticated communications between the aircraft and its base allowing constant/automatic monitoring of the aircraft's performance and customer services such as reservations/ticket issues from on board; advanced air traffic control facilities to enhance aircraft safety.



Child's play: Claire Hirst at the computer yesterday (Photograph: Chris Harris).

Girl of two opens micro show

By Bill Johnstone, Technology Correspondent

A girl of two who as yet cannot read or write but who is believed to be a prodigy with computers opened a four-day computer show in London yesterday.

Claire Hirst, from Bramhall, Stockport, has been playing with her BBC Microcomputer for nearly 18 months, helped by her father. His work as a credit control manager means he has to bring a microcomputer home and use it, and has encouraged his daughter's interest.

She has learnt how to respond to pre-written software (com-

puter programs) and can write simple music and draw graphics. Recently she used a music program to compose her own version of Good King Wenceslas, and a drawing program to design her own Christmas cards.

Database Publications, the organizers of the BBC Micro User Show at the New Horticultural Hall, Westminster, London, said: "We were simply astounded when we saw what this child could do."

"What better way is there to let people know how easy it is

to handle a computer than to let them see it being operated by a two-year-old, even if she is a prodigy."

Security risks from terrorism, kidnapping and civil disturbance around the world can be assessed by executives with a new computer database published by Datasolve. It has more than 1,000 pages supplying companies in 142 countries, using information from Control Risks Information Services (CRIS), an international political risks consultancy.

Faster home sales with bigger land registry

By Frances Gibb

Legal Affairs Correspondent

Measures to simplify and speed house sales through extending the compulsory registration of land were announced by Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, yesterday.

He has approved an order which will extend compulsory land registration to cover areas containing nearly 80 per cent of the population in England and Wales, compared with 73 per cent at present.

The order, to take effect in April or November 1985, depending on district, will bring about the first extension of compulsory land registration - except for former council houses - since 1978.

It is the first of two orders which will implement the Government's aim to simplify house sales.

The second order, to extend compulsory registration to cover 85 per cent of the population in England and Wales by 1987, is expected to be made next year.

Among districts where the order takes effect from April are: Amber Valley, Derbyshire; Hyndburn, Lancashire; North-avon, Avon; Pendle, Lancashire; Restormel, Cornwall; Thamesdown, Wiltshire; Wood-spring, Avon.

Among those where the order takes effect from November are: Boothferry, Humberside; Chelmsford, Essex; Cheltenham, Gloucestershire; Corby, Northamptonshire; Great Yarmouth, Norfolk; Monmouth, Gwent; Rutland, Leicestershire; Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire.

Cheese to cost more

Milk supplies to creameries for making cheese fell by more than 700 million litres in the period April to October this year.

The fall was due to the

Library acquires Spencer archive

By Kenneth Gosling

The family papers of the Princess of Wales, a literary and political archive of considerable historic importance, have been acquired from the Spencer family of Althorp by the British Library for an undisclosed amount.

Negotiated by private treaty, the sale was assisted by a grant of £128,398 from the National Heritage Memorial Fund and £5,000 from the Friends of the National Library. There was "a major allocation" of funds from the British Library which benefits, with the vendor, from exemption from capital tax applied to private treaty sales of works of art to the nation. The estimated value of the papers could be as much as £200,000.

The archive dates from the sixteenth century, the earliest record relating to the period of the Spencer family's rise to greatness and including a sub-archive of the Cliffords, Earls of Cumberland from 1555 to 1625. Among the rich material of the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries are the voluminous papers of Sarah, 1st Duchess of Marlborough, including her 26 wills and many letters from Queen Anne.

Three items go on display in the British Library's manuscript saloon from today: minutes by Sir George Savile, Marquess of Halifax, of a meeting of a group of peers in December 1688 when they debated whether to send James II to the Tower; a volume of the Queen Anne letters and an opinion on the Irish question from Charles Parnell to the 5th Earl.

West Midlands Intermediate Area

Intermediate Area Status

1.1 The Intermediate Area, as defined by the Government, is the West Midlands Intermediate Area (I.A.) in the West Midlands has significant benefits for the New Town of Telford.

1.2 The new scheme will offer selective financial assistance to qualifying projects that create new jobs or safeguard existing ones.

Extension of benefits to the Service Industries

1.3 Service industries - banks, insurance, laboratories and computer services amongst others - will now be eligible, joining most manufacturing processes which are already included.

Additional financial assistance

1.4 Other benefits available to qualifying projects within the I.A. include:

- (a) Training grants for new personnel
- (b) Access to loans from the European Investment Bank, as well as exchange rate grants and related benefits.

The Telford Enterprise Zone

1.5 The benefits of the Enterprise Zone within Telford (i.e. 100% capital allowances, and no rates payable until 1994) are available in addition to the new selective financial assistance.

Existing benefits

1.6 Telford has a wide variety of readily available resources, and is on Britain's main motorway network; the new M54 puts the M6 within 20 minutes driving time, while Birmingham is about half an hour away.

1.7 In addition to direct financial benefits, Telford offers an attractive, well-developed environment.

1.8 The Telford Development Corporation offers businesses a high level of back-up and expertise, together with extremely competitive financial packages. For details, call the Commercial or Industrial Director now on 0952 613131.

Difficult choices have to be made about state spending

business should be dealt with outside Cabinet as possible. But one of the dangers for any government with a very large majority, that has been in office for a long time without an effective opposition, is that it will come to attach too much importance to good management and too little to good policies.

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Advertisement

Powers for local prosecutors to handle murder and rape cases

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Proposals for the new Crown Prosecutors to handle offences such as murder, rape, arson and kidnapping without referring them to the Director of Public Prosecutions, are outlined in a White Paper published yesterday.

The proposals, by the Attorney General, Sir Michael Havers, QC, will come into force with the new independent prosecution service in 1986. They involve a radical redistribution of business between local prosecuting offices and the DPP so that in most cases decisions to prosecute will be made locally.

It is estimated that referrals to the DPP's office from local prosecuting departments, now running at about 14,000 a year, will be halved.

The DPP can take no action on these, refer them back for local prosecution, or prosecute himself, which occurs in some 1,500 to 2,000 cases. Many of those will, under the new service, be dealt with locally.

Among offences that the Crown prosecutors will tackle are straightforward murder cases, wounding, grievous bodily harm, and all other offences contrary to the Offences Against the Person Act 1961, except those involving explosives. It also includes rape, indecent assault, gross indecency, and all other offences contrary to the Sexual Offences Act 1956. At present multiple referrals must be referred to the DPP.

The prosecutors will also deal with kidnapping, child stealing, offences involving the possession and supply of drugs, except conspiracies, and all robberies, burglaries and thefts.

They will also handle criminal damage, including arson.

Certain specified offences will still have to be referred to the DPP's office, such as homicide, other than simple murder, death by reckless driving, attempted murder, abortion offences, treason, conspiracy to make or supply drugs, and criminal libel.

In addition, certain categories of offence will be referred, chiefly: large and complex frauds, obscene publications, allegations against the police, except involving the use of motor vehicles where no death is involved, (to avoid any suggestion of local influence), and cases of exceptional public concern or difficulty.

The White Paper says that of offences now needing the DPP's consent for prosecution, those producing the most referrals include burglary and gross indecency between males where one is under 21, making false reports and wasting police time, incest, and theft or criminal damage to a spouse's property.

In all these cases prosecution decisions will normally be exercised locally. The new prosecutions service, to be set up under the recently published Prosecution of Offences Bill, is aimed at increasing public confidence in the prosecution process by separating it from police investigations. It is also intended to produce more consistency in prosecutions and cost effectiveness.

Welcoming the Bill and the White Paper, Sir Patrick Mayhew, QC, Solicitor General, said he hoped it would allay misgivings that the new service would be too centralized.

Leading article, page 13

Objections to Lakes tree scheme

A proposal by the Forestry Commission to plant more trees at Dunnerdale in the Lake District National Park, is to be opposed by the Countryside Commission and the Friends of the Lake District.

The site adjoins the Grassguards area, where a Forestry Commission planting scheme received many objections two years ago. Then permission was granted only after the planting area was reduced and a number of conditions imposed.

The Forestry Commission claims that the scheme, which involves 95 per cent conifers, will improve the landscaping of the Grassguards basin.

But Mr Graham Coggins, the Countryside Commission's northern officer, said yesterday: "There is no justification for it on landscape grounds, as it will mean trees on the skyline which will be visible from a wide part of this beautiful area."

Mr Michael Houston, secretary of the Lake District Society, said: "It is undulating fell country, attractive land, and we are totally opposed to planting there."

50 in A-tests exposed to high radiation level

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

Up to 50 people who took part in British nuclear tests during the 1950s were exposed to radiation levels up to five times higher than those which would be permitted for workers in the nuclear industry today.

This was admitted yesterday by Mr Adam Butler, Minister of State for Defence Procurement. It contrasts with the experience of all the other 20,000 people involved in the tests.

Mr Butler states in a letter which has been circulated to members of Parliament, "All the evidence I have indicates that proper precautions were taken to safeguard the health and safety of those involved in the UK's atmospheric nuclear test programmes, and it is important to note that the standards in use at the time were comparable with those of today."

Mr Butler told journalists that of the 20,000 involved in the tests, 15,000 were not exposed to any radiation levels above those in the natural environment. Apart from the 50 or fewer who were exposed to a "planned special exposure level", the remaining 5,000 were exposed to levels comparable with those which people in the United Kingdom experience from normal environmental levels during the course of a year.

"What I am saying is that we are confident that the levels of radiation experienced as a result of these tests were comparable with what you get on a normal life basis," Mr Butler said.

His comments and his letters to MPs appear to have been designed to counter press reports that participants in the tests in Australia and on Christmas Island were deliberately exposed to high levels of radiation. They are also clearly designed to set the record straight for the Australian royal

Cambridge alters entry system

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Cambridge University is reforming its admission system so that applicants will take an entrance examination in the same term as A levels, it was announced yesterday.

The new examination, to be called the Sixth Term Examination, is proposed by the working party set up under the chairmanship of Professor Sir John Butterfield, the university's vice-chancellor. The aim is to make the admissions system simpler and fairer to candidates from state schools, who cannot get tutoring for a seventh term examination.

As forecast in *The Times* last week, the current Cambridge Colleges' Examination, taken in November in the fourth or seventh term of the sixth form, is to be abolished. It will be set for the last term next year and the new examination will be set in 1987.

It is expected that applicants will not have to state a preference for one college, and will be accepted for entry on the basis of both A levels and the Sixth Term Examination.

Medical experts who have little knowledge of the effects of methyl isocyanate because there have been few accidents and no known fatalities were referring to history books yesterday to explain the horrifying effects of the chemicals and how survivors can be treated.

In the United States three weeks ago, 30 schoolchildren and a teacher were affected by a leak of methyl isocyanate (MIC) at a factory in Middletown, New York State.

There were no serious injuries in the leak of 30 gallons of MIC from the plant. The children were treated for temporary eye irritations.

One of the aspects being examined in the Indian tragedy yesterday was whether MIC alone was responsible for the thousands of casualties, whether it was a mixture of the chemical and phosgene.

Dr Nity Chaudhuri, the chairman of the Central Water and Air Pollution Board, said in Delhi on Wednesday that he could not confirm or deny the report. Because of the sensitive nature of the installation, Dr Chaudhuri said, entrusting the job to unskilled, untrained people would be like "having an atom bomb and asking kids to play with it."

In Bhopal, Mr V. P. Sathie, the Minister for Petroleum and Chemicals, said that on Sunday night an operator noticed a sudden rise in temperature in the tank in which the lethal chemical was stored and tried to regulate the flow of gas. But by that time, he said, a device that releases air had failed and the gas was escaping.

The company has a world-wide liability cover in US markets. One of the lead insurers is American International Group with a potential liability, before reinsurance, of US\$15 million (£12.5 million). Among UK companies with significant US operations, Royal Insurance, has an exposure to Union Carbide's policy of around US\$0.5m.



Funeral march: A guard-of honour preceding the coffin of Marshal Pavel Kutakhov, the Soviet Air Force chief, at his funeral in Moscow's Novodevichy cemetery yesterday. The ceremony was attended by all Russia's top brass except Marshal Ustinov, the Defence Minister.

Tory MEPs revolt over acid rain

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Conservative members of the European Parliament are countering the Prime Minister's wrath by ranging themselves for the first time with majority opinion in the European Community in outright opposition to British Government policy.

At a private meeting in Brussels on Wednesday the Tory MEPs decided not merely to join but to put themselves at the head of the great majority of MEPs, of all parties and countries, who are hostile to the British Government position on acid rain and the pollution of Continental forests and waters.

They are to table a motion for debate in the Strasbourg parliament on Thursday which will call on member governments to withdraw their more extreme objections to the draft EEC directive on pollution, which was discussed by environment ministers yesterday.

The British representative, Mr William Waldegrave,

Under-Secretary at the Department of the Environment, was under instructions to veto the draft as contrary to British national interests. Members of the Conservative group therefore recognize, and are content, that their move will be taken both at Strasbourg and in Downing Street as aimed at Britain alone.

The group's decision, taken with about 30 of the 45 British members present was unanimous. Although one or two participants yesterday showed signs of cold feet, the group as a whole appeared to be in a new mood of resolve to defy the Prime Minister in defence of what they believe to be Britain's best interests.

They argue that the acid rain directive, which the British Government considers too costly to implement, is overwhelmingly popular in other member countries, and that the Government's opposition to it

will do Britain grave damage, in particular with West German public and political opinion.

Further, they believe they have the tacit support of Mr Waldegrave, of his chief, Mr Patrick Jenkin, of Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, and a majority of the Cabinet. Opposition in the Cabinet comes from Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, who fears that anti-pollution measures will increase electricity costs, and from Mrs Margaret Thatcher, who supports him.

The Tory MEPs recognize that their open opposition to the British Government may encourage the Council of Ministers to override the British veto by a majority vote. If that occurs, the Prime Minister's anger is likely to be as fierce as when the Council of Agricultural Ministers overrode Mr Walker's veto to approve the 1982 farm price settlement by

majority vote, the first time the so-called Luxembourg compromise was broken.

BRUSSELS: Unleaded petrol ought to go on sale throughout the EEC by 1989, the environment ministers agreed at their meeting (Ian Murray writes). But there were many technical objections to be sorted out before an EEC directive could be brought into force.

West Germany, which has been forcing the pace to bring in strict controls on car-exhaust gases, was trying to make all other EEC countries agree to similar limits. France accepted this view.

Britain, while in favour of making unleaded petrol widely available, argued against a control of emission standards. Nevertheless, it was agreed that the time had come to consent to Community-wide standards for putting unleaded petrol on sale.

Thorn fears, page 8

Goldwater astounds Pentagon with MX and cash proposals

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

Senator Barry Goldwater, an outspoken conservative and chairman-designate of the Senate armed services committee, has astounded the White House and the Pentagon by advocating a freeze on military spending and the scrapping of the MX missile.

His controversial proposals, made in an interview with the *Washington Post*, were made as President Reagan is seeking further ways to reduce the 1986 budget by \$42 billion as a first step towards halving the record federal deficit to about \$100 billion by 1988.

The former Republican presidential candidate from Arizona, who is aged 75 and plans to retire from the Senate in two years, vowed to use his chairmanship of the committee to support the military wherever possible.

He did say, however, that he wanted to see the Pentagon staff of 22,000 reduced and to rein-in defence contractors who until now "pretty much wrote their own tickets".

Senator Goldwater, who is to succeed Senator John Tower of Texas as committee chairman, said he believed the 10-warhead MX missile, which is at the centre of the Reagan Administration's strategic modernization programme, was unnecessary and that Congress was anyway likely to kill the MX programme in its next session.

In a remark which is certain to annoy Mr Casper Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, he also said the Pentagon should

not be exempted from the curbs on spending that other departments are having to face.

Mr Weinberger, who is overseas at present, has said defence spending should rise from \$293 billion in the 1985 financial year to \$334 billion in 1986. President Reagan is under increasing pressure to slow the rate of increase in defence spending as part of an overall programme to reduce the deficit.

Mr David Stockman, the President's budget director, has said that about \$8 billion could be saved next year by slowing the pace of military growth. This, together with cuts of \$34 billion in non-military spending, would enable President Reagan to achieve his goal of cutting \$42 billion from next year's budget.

Meanwhile the President has confirmed that Mr Paul Nitze, the veteran arms negotiator, will serve as adviser to Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, at next month's arms negotiations in Geneva with Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister.

The appointment opens the way for Mr Nitze, who led the American delegation at the stalled talks on intermediate-range missiles, to become the negotiator if the Soviet Union agrees to the US proposal for permanent "umbrella" forum for arms control issues.

Mr Shultz will also be accompanied by senior representatives from the rival Pentagon and State Department factions at the Geneva talks.

Egypt hints at readiness for summit

From Christopher Walker, Cairo

Secret contacts are understood to have taken place between Israel and Egypt to prepare for a summit meeting next year between President Mubarak and Mr Shimon Peres, who suggested the idea after being appointed Prime Minister of Israel's National Unity Government.

Egypt stated publicly yesterday, for the first time, that it had "no objections" to the summit plan, but stressed that more groundwork was needed before a date could be set. It is expected to be convened on the Israeli-Egyptian border.

The improvement in Israeli-Egyptian relations since last summer's Israeli elections was underlined here by Mr Esmat Abdul Meguid, the Egyptian Foreign Minister, at his first press conference since being appointed last July.

In the wake of King Hussein's state visit to Cairo, the conference was seen as further evidence of Egypt's determination to emerge from its recent isolation to adopt a central role in Middle East diplomacy.

Welcoming this week's official visit to Paris by Mr Peres, the first by an Israeli Prime Minister for many years, Mr Meguid said: "We have seen from Mr Peres some encouraging signs towards the peace process."

He added that the new Labour Prime Minister had approached Egypt "with a new spirit which is certainly appreciated."

Mr Meguid cited Israel's declared intention of withdrawing from Lebanon as one reason for the recent thaw in Egyptian-Israeli relations. He also disclosed that "an answer" was expected soon on an Egyptian request for the long-running dispute with Israel over the coastal strip at Taba on the Red Sea to be referred to arbitration.

The Foreign Minister's conciliatory remarks towards the Israeli leader were seen as representing Egypt's determination to act as a bridge between Arabs and Jews.

● NAQOURA: Talks on ending Israel's occupation of south Lebanon entered their eighth round here yesterday as Lebanon's Cabinet met to discuss a stalled plan to move the Army south of Beirut (Reuters reports).

A Lebanese military source said Lebanon hoped Israel would give a positive reply to a proposal that the Lebanese Army, supported in part by UN forces, should take responsibility for security throughout south Lebanon.

● RIYADH: Mr Casper Weinberger, the United States Defence Secretary, and Saudi Defence Minister, Prince Sultan Ben Abdul Aziz, held talks here yesterday on United States military assistance for Saudi Arabia, official sources said (AFP reports).

Jordan's peace, page 12

Madrid date for Rock reopening

Spain foresees opening the frontier with Gibraltar, permitting the free passage of people and goods, between February 8 and 15, according to a Foreign Ministry official in Madrid.

In London, Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, said in a Commons written answer that the Spanish enclaves on the north African coast, Ceuta and Melilla, were considered as part of Spain by all parties involved in the negotiations over Spain joining the EEC.

His questioner, Mr John Taylor, the Ulster Unionist MP for Strangford, said this meant the enclave residents would have voting rights in the next European polls, a fact which would be resented by British citizens in Gibraltar, who were still denied the right to vote in the elections.

Lambsdorff on new charge

Bonn - The trial of Otto Graf Lambsdorff, the former West German Economics Minister, on charges of corruption could be postponed because of a new charge of tax evasion that the Bonn public prosecutor intends to bring, legal experts said (Michael Binyon writes).

The trial was set for January 10, when the count, his predecessor as economics minister and a former Flick manager were to face charges arising out of a favourable tax ruling for the Flick company.

Kashmir city under curfew

Delhi, (Reuters) - A curfew was imposed for a time yesterday on Jammu, the winter capital of the north Indian border state of Jammu and Kashmir, after violence in which one person was stabbed to death, the Press Trust of India reported.

Police said the incident triggered communal violence elsewhere in the mainly Hindu city.

Appeal fails

Canberra (Reuters) - Australia's most wanted man, Robert Trimble, who is to face charges of murder, drug smuggling and forgery, yesterday had his appeal against extradition from Ireland rejected by unanimous decision of the Australian High Court.

Border killing

Vienna - Yugoslav border guards shot dead a Romanian attempting to escape into southern Austria last week, according to the daily newspaper *Delo*.

Marcos back

Manila (AP) - President Marcos of the Philippines will meet his Cabinet tomorrow for the first time since he became ill, the palace said.

Death camp visit for police cadets

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

All police cadets in Berlin will be obliged to visit a former concentration camp as part of their training and education, a police spokesman said.

The decision follows the conviction of two cadets for hating a Jewish colleague and inciting racial hatred during training at the Kehlstein academy in 1982. At the suggestion of their superiors they gave up their training. The two men, now aged 20, were also found

guilty of possessing banned extreme right-wing pamphlets.

On Tuesday a Berlin court imposed on them fines of DM1,200 (£325) and DM400 and ordered them to visit the sites in Berlin of resistance to the Nazis, including the memorial to the July plotters against Hitler and the place where some of the plotters were hanged.

The magistrate said the spreading of contempt for sections of the population was the breeding ground for atrocities such as those perpetrated against the Jew.

● KOHL REMEMBERS: Chancellor Helmut Kohl will speak at a service in spring commemorating the 50th anniversary of the liberation of Bergen-Belsen concentration camp (AP reports).

Bishops of Poland chart course

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Poland's 80 bishops yesterday met in closed session for crucial talks charting the medium-term future of relations with the communist authorities and to listen to a briefing by Cardinal Jozef Glemp, the Primate about his meetings with the Pope last week.

Some bishops have been wanting a critical review of Church-state relations since the murder on October 19 of the radical priest, Father Jerzy Popieluszko, but sources close to the Primate say there is unlikely to be any important shift in the Church's course.

The episcopate will try to extend its protection of those parish priests who feel they are under fire from the authorities. The latest case came to light yesterday, when Father Jan Liminski, a pro-Solidarity priest, said he suffered a heart attack after a 15-hour police interrogation. But at the same time the episcopate will demand self-discipline of all parish priests, emphasizing that they should not resort to political abuse in the pulpit.

The Pope appears to support this more cautious line at least until the smoke has cleared around the circumstances of Father Popieluszko's murder. Although the Church leadership approves of the relative candour of the authorities on the affair, it is withholding judgement until the Government names the true political masterminds behind the crime.

Many Polish bishops share the views of the Vatican official Cardinal Salvatore Pappalardo, that Father Popieluszko could be beatified.

CIA let off hook over war manual

From Our Own Correspondent, Washington

The Reagan Administration, and in particular Mr William Casey, Director of the CIA, have been let off the hook by the House intelligence committee, which has just completed a two-month inquiry into the agency's role in publishing a guerrilla manual for Nicaraguan rebels.

The Committee ruled that although the manual was illegal, embarrassing and proof of the CIA's lack of control over the covert war in Nicaragua, no disciplinary action should be taken because its production was due to negligence rather than to any attempt to violate the law.

It contained instructions on selective use of violence to "neutralize" Nicaraguan government officials, and gave advice on blackmail and kidnapping. The committee said it was repugnant.

Congress has voted to cut off money for CIA covert operations in Nicaragua.

Tamil insurgents accused of burning 17 people alive on bus

Anuradhapura, Sri Lanka (AP) - Armed Tamil rebels fighting for an independent state here in northern Sri Lanka burnt 17 people alive in a bus at Cheddikulam, government officials said yesterday.

They said the bus from Mannar, a north-west coastal town, to Anuradhapura was stopped by a group of rebels who ordered Tamil passengers out and set fire to the vehicle with 16 Sinhalese and one Muslim inside.

Officials here were fearful that the attack might spark off communal violence which the government has consistently maintained is the rebels' aim.

The Tamils are allegedly supported by training and operational bases in Tamil Nadu state in South India. The bus burning incident brought the death toll to nearly 100.

"The terrorists kill Sinhalese civilians in the hope of provoking ethnic violence against the Tamils in the predominantly Sinhalese south. They kill Tamils to make propaganda in Madras saying, 'See what the Sinhalese army does'," Mr Lalith Athulathmudali, the Minister for Security said at a press briefing.

The bus burning at Cheddikulam was a clear ethnic attack and the Sri Lankan media have blacked out the incident in the

interest of preventing ethnic violence.

The bus had left Mannar, where a guerrilla land mine killed one soldier and injured six others on Tuesday, triggering fighting in which the Government said 32 "terrorists" were killed.

But residents of Mannar claim the Army went on a reprisal rampage after the military killing, killing dozens of innocent people. Government officials said more than 80 bodies have been recovered from the Mannar area since the land mine blast.

● **JAFFNA HIJACKS:** Three armed youths yesterday hijacked the car of the Government Agent of Jaffna, Mr Mutthiah Panchalingam, and kidnapped his driver while he was travelling from Jaffna to Manipay two miles away (Donovan Moldrich writes).

In other incidents in Jaffna, rebels hijacked a Ceylon Petroleum Corporation refuelling lorry carrying 1,500 gallons of diesel oil and raided the Jaffna Post Office, where they removed five telex machines.

The lorry was later found abandoned after the diesel oil had been drained out. Sales of fuel in the Jaffna area are restricted to cut down on the rebels' mobility.

In the last of three articles on Australia, Alan Hamilton, who covered last week's general election, discusses the changing pattern of migration to a once overwhelmingly Anglo-Saxon society.

Professor Geoffrey Blainey, a distinguished historian at Melbourne University, stirred up a hornet's nest earlier this year when he suggested in an address to a local Rotary Club that Australia was letting in too many Asian immigrants.

Supporters of a white Australia rushed to agree with him, while a substantial body of alternative opinion branded him a racist. The debate smouldered on.

Certainly the traditional pattern of migration, which heavily favoured residents of the British Isles, has been dramatically reversed: in 1983-84, 26,000 Asians were admitted to the land of the sun and the stubbies, compared with only 13,000 British and Irish.

The change is explained not so much by a conscious policy of Asianization as by a drastic cut in the "skilled worker" category of immigrants in the last 18 months because of Australia's own high unemployment. Added to that is the Government's policy of allowing in the immediate families of those Indo-Chinese refugees who found sanctuary in the wake of the Vietnam War.

But there is another, less publicized factor. The fact is that Britons are just not as interested in emigrating to Australia as they once were. Department of Immigration



The changing face of Melbourne: Greek restaurants in the suburb of Carlton and (right) the city's Vietnamese area of Richmond.

officials report that, whereas there were more than 130,000 migration applications to Australia House in London in 1980-81, in the first nine months of the last financial year there were a mere 13,000.

The drop is attributed to widespread publicity in Britain in the last two years about Australia's own recession - now showing signs of improvement - and to stories like that of the steelworkers, recruited in

Britain by the Australian company Broken Hill Proprietary, who were sacked after only nine months in the sun.

Some Australian liberals dream of creating the world's first truly multiracial society

but, despite the undertones of Professor Blainey's remarks, that day is a long way off. In the last year, Europeans of all nationalities accounted for 45 per cent of all immigrants to Australia and are still the biggest single category by far. The number of first-generation British Isles migrants now living in the country is estimated at 1.1 million.

The last national survey of ethnic origins, in 1976, showed three-quarters of the population to be of British Isles stock, 8 per cent Southern European, 4 per cent East European, and only 1 per cent Asian. Projections for the year 2008 put Asians at between 4 per cent and 6 per cent, but the Poms still at well over two-thirds.

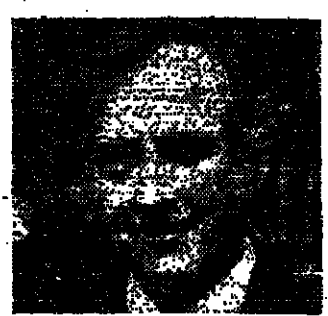
By comparison the census of 1891 showed 87 per cent of the population to be British. The only other substantial category were Germans, at 4 per cent.

Today the nature of Australian society is still largely determined by immigration. The 1981 census showed that, out of a population of 15 million, three million had been born elsewhere with the largest single percentage coming from Britain, although with significant numbers from such unlikely quarters as Malta, Poland, Lebanon, Turkey and Egypt.

It is the changed priority of categories which has caused this year's immigration debate. Only two years ago the number of migrants admitted to the country under the headings of "labour" or "business" was

more than 50,000, some 90 per cent of the total. In the last year it has dropped to little over 10,000.

Opposition parties in the federal government complained bitterly at the lack of consultation on such an apparently major change of policy, and criticized the Hawke Government for taking advice from the Australian trade union movement and no one else.



Professor Blainey: Accused of being a racist.

The impression gained by walking the streets of Australia's leading cities is not of an influx of Asians - apart from the milling hordes of Japanese tourists - but of Southern Europeans. Italian cab drivers and waiters are everywhere, and Melbourne is said to be the third biggest Greek-speaking city in the world after Athens and Salonika.

Could it be that the spread of an emotional Latin influence is responsible for the recent spate of prominent Australians bursting into tears?

Concluded

Australian outlook: Part 3

New priorities stir up the immigration debate

European gunmen kill nine Kanaks

From Alan Hamilton, Noumea

Nine people have been killed and three seriously wounded in a night ambush at the remote New Caledonia village of Hienghene, 300 miles from the capital.

The dead and injured were all Melanesians, members of Kanak community which is agitating for independence from France. Two of those killed were brothers of M. Jean-Pierre Tjibaou, the self-proclaimed president and figurehead of the independence movement.

French security forces immediately flew into the village in helicopters and evacuated 51 civilians. More than 100 gendarmes are combing the area for clues and suspects.

M. Tjibaou said yesterday that the Kanaks had been returning home in two cars from a meeting at a village hall

when they were stopped by a road block set up by Europeans. Dynamite was thrown into one car and the men were shot as they tried to escape.

Pro-government sources disputed this version, and claimed the Kanaks had been attacked after setting fire to the houses of two French settlers.

A Government spokesman said that the badly burned body of a man had been found in one of the cars, riddled with bullets.

M. Edgard Pisani, the French Government commissioner charged with solving the independence dispute, said yesterday that despite the incident the security situation in the island was returning to normal.

Seventeen Kanaks, arrested during disturbances when they boycotted the local elections on Nov 18, have been released.

Dissident defends his thesis

From Dossa Trevisan, Belgrade

The trial of six Yugoslav intellectuals charged with anti-state conspiracy resumed yesterday after a two-week break, with one of the defendants, Milan Nikolic, rejecting additional charges and refusing to answer any more questions because his integrity did not permit him to take further part.

Earlier, the Public Prosecutor additionally charged Mr Nikolic with engaging in hostile activities in connection with two manuscripts found in his flat. One was published last year in the *New Left Review* by an English author who sent the manuscripts for Mr Nikolic's comments.

Ridiculing the charge, Mr Nikolic said dozens of institutions in Yugoslavia were receiving the review, including libraries of the Communist Party. Therefore all those who had read the allegedly incriminating article should share the defendants' bench.

The second additional charge related to Mr Nikolic's thesis on the conflicts in Yugoslavia, prepared for his master's degree at Brandeis University.

As the prosecutor presented it as evidence that he was calling on Yugoslav workers to rise against the regime, Mr Nikolic said: "How can I call upon Yugoslav workers to rise when the thesis is written in the English language?"

Muldoon is ordered out of debate

From Our Correspondent, Wellington

Sir Robert Muldoon, who was voted out of the leadership of the Opposition National Party last week, last night was ordered from the parliamentary chamber for calling Mr John Tiers, the chairman of committees, an incompetent and unfrocked priest.

Sir Robert, a former Prime Minister, precipitated a furious debate by labelling Mr Chris Laidlaw, the Government's adviser on Commonwealth affairs, a traitor. Mr Laidlaw is a former foreign service officer and was a deputy to Mr Sonny Ramphal, the Commonwealth Secretary-General.

Sir Robert said: "My impression was what he did was prepare ammunition for the Secretary-General to fire to hurt his own country. I'm talking about the question of our relationship with South Africa and our relationship with Africa generally, and I have to tell you I regarded him as a traitor to New Zealand."

In the ensuing furore Mr David Lange, the Prime Minister, said the remarks were an indictment of Sir Robert's character, mentality and judgement. When the chair failed to respond to demands that the Prime Minister withdraw his comment, Sir Robert turned on the chairman. He was ordered from the chamber and the Sergeant at Arms summoned.

Key wage agreements bring relief for Lange

From W. P. Reeves, Wellington

The New Zealand Government dropped safely off the high wire of its wages act yesterday when employers and unions in several key industries settled on increases of between six and seven per cent.

The agreements, covering metal and electrical workers and drivers, are the first for more than two and a half years under the wage bargaining principle, and set trends likely to be followed in succeeding negotiations.

The new rates are acceptable to the Government. It wanted a lower figure, but, given that some unions have been asking for 20 per cent and a declaration by the Federation of Labour that its bottom line was 9.6 per cent, the Government can feel some relief at the outcome.

As negotiations started again this week, Mr David Lange, the

Prime Minister, warned that regulations would be imposed if the Government's guideline of four to five per cent were put at risk.

In another development, Mr Lange yesterday announced what he described as a "tough policy" for sports people visiting New Zealand on South African passports. Entry would be denied unless they declared that they were not representing South Africa.

The sporting organization involved in New Zealand would also have to give an undertaking that the South African would not be considered in any way to be representing that country.

The first test of the policy is likely to come in the reaction of South African tennis players expected to enter the New Zealand Open championships next month.

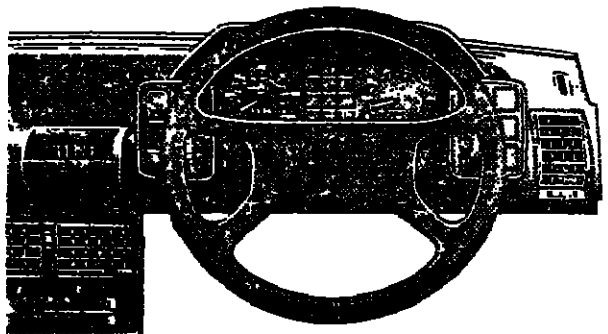
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already outstandingly equipped Uno 70S.

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Above your head there's a tilt-and-slide glass sunroof with blind; and in front of you a comprehensive check control panel,

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Plus many of the features of the standard Uno 70S: including a 5-speed gearbox, tinted windows, a heated rear screen with wash/wipe, front seat head restraints and asymmetrically split rear seats. Plus

0-62 mph acceleration in 11.5 seconds, 56.5 mpg economy at a steady 56 mph, and 103 mph top speed.

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for

The Esso logo, consisting of the word "Esso" in a bold, stylized font inside a thick oval border.

Catholic bishops assail police conduct in South African townships

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

The Catholic Church in Southern Africa yesterday issued a powerful and well-documented denunciation of police conduct in countering unrest in African townships around Johannesburg since August.

The 38-page report declares that police behaviour "resembled that of an occupying army controlling enemy territory by force without regard for the civilian population and, it appears, without regard for the law."

It was released at a press conference in Pretoria chaired by the Most Reverend Denis Hurley, Archbishop of Durban and president of the Southern

African Catholic Bishops' Conference.

Archbishop Hurley said the report was based on affidavits and statements from between 40 and 50 people who had suffered from, or been witnesses of, police brutality.

He was satisfied that in the overwhelming majority of cases police attacks had been provoked.

The Archbishop faces trial in February under the Police Act for remarks at a press conference in February 1983 accusing police of atrocities against civilians. He said great care had been taken in compiling the report on township unrest, to ensure that it did not infringe the Police Act.

The report alleges indiscriminate use of firearms, including rubber bullets, birdshot and conventional bullets. It estimates that 150 people have been killed in disturbances in townships on the Reef, and attributes the great majority to police action. The police admit having killed more than 90 people.

In an appendix to the report, a doctor says that rubber bullets can kill at close range.

The report suggests that the use of rubber bullets, though intended to reduce the number killed, may have encouraged police to feel they have an open licence to shoot in the belief that such ammunition can do no serious harm.

A common allegation is that during assaults the police laughed and appeared to regard what they were doing as "a kind of sport". Both black and white policemen were involved in acts of violence.

"A kind of state of war is developing between the police and the people," Archbishop Hurley said. Instead of being guardians of law and order, police were promoters of unrest and disturbance.

"They seem to be in a mood which inspires them to say: 'The people are our enemy, and we are out to impose our will upon them by any means that we find effective,'" he declared.

Soweto leader killed

Soweto (AFP) — Edward Manyosi, the chairman of Soweto's municipal council, was killed in an ambush just hours before he was expected to be elected mayor of this black township on the outskirts of Johannesburg.

Police said a car carrying several people blocked Mr Manyosi's vehicle as he drove late on Wednesday through Soweto and an unidentified man in the car shot him twice, once in the head.

The South African press

agency SAPA said Mr Manyosi was killed shortly after leaving a municipal council meeting during which some of the councillors decided to elect him mayor during a vote due to be held yesterday. He would have replaced Soweto's controversial current mayor, Mr Aphraim Tshababala.

Mr Manyosi, considered the current mayor's main political rival, had appeared his most likely successor following a stormy municipal council meeting last week.



Riding to rescue: Safety workers board a trolley to search for 61 men trapped 8,250ft deep in the Haishan Iken coal mine, south-west of Taipei. Thirty-three other bodies were recovered after an explosion on Wednesday.

Red Cross doubles aid appeal

Geneva (AP) — The International Red Cross, doubling last year's appeal for aid, yesterday asked members to give 165 million Swiss francs (£53 million) next year as an "emergency lifeline" to Africa.

The Geneva-based League of National Red Cross Societies said that \$Fr128 million was needed immediately to provide food and supplies to famine victims in 14 countries, Ethiopia, Chad, Kenya, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Burkina Faso, and Cape Verde.

Another \$Fr37 million was needed to fight famine in the Sahel region, where the situation was "deteriorating fast". The League said its aid would go to young children and mothers, and said it planned to train 1,000 new volunteers for its African relief programmes.

Thorn fears Greece puts EEC target date beyond reach

From Ian Murray, Brussels

It now seems impossible for Spain and Portugal to join the EEC as planned by the beginning of 1986, according to Mr Gaston Thorn, the outgoing president of the European Commission.

In a very gloomy assessment of the Dublin summit, Mr Thorn said in Brussels that the negotiating calendar was now so tight that the target date seemed out of reach. This was because Greece was not prepared to lift its veto on enlargement until the European summit at the end of next March.

Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Greek Prime Minister, said in Dublin that he would only allow the enlargement of the Community to go ahead once he was satisfied with EEC plans — yet to be negotiated — to spend money in the poorer regions of the Mediterranean.

According to Mr Thorn, this will make Spain and Portugal hold out for better terms than the Community is prepared to offer, which in turn will mean that final accession terms cannot be agreed until after March.

Some three months would then be required to complete the necessary legal texts for presentation to the 10 national parliaments, which would all be on holiday by the time the documents were ready.

This would then make it impossible for ratification of the terms to begin before October of next year, leaving only three months at best to complete the process. Community experience has been that a minimum of 10 months is required to clear such a document through all 10 parliaments.

Mr Thorn pointed out that this was the best possible scenario, and would depend on Mr Papandreu being satisfied in his demand for a five or six-year deal worth up to £1,500 million to Greece alone.

If as now seems inevitable, the European Parliament next week rejects the Community budget for 1985, there will be absolutely no money available to offer Greece anything.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher has

Steel apology for 'below par' pair

Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, apologized yesterday while addressing European Liberals in Brussels for Mrs Thatcher's appointment of two "redundant political nonentities" to Brussels Commission.

The choice of "below-par" figures to the EEC's new administration next year showed Mrs Thatcher's low level of commitment to the Community, he said.

They are Mr Stanley Clinton Davis a former junior Labour trade minister, and Lord Cockfield, an ex-Tory Cabinet Minister.

now vanished into bureaucratic oblivion and the Papandreu Government has fallen back on its next line of defence: the Mediterranean programme satisfies most of the demands of the Greek memorandum.

Mr Papandreu qualified his veto by allowing enlargement negotiations to go on but threatening to block it at the March summit if there is no definite commitment on the Mediterranean programme.

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Two vital questions for Greens

From Michael Binayon Bonn

The Greens today begin a congress in Hamburg that may be crucial in deciding whether the five-year-old party, now riding the wave of electoral success in West Germany, is to develop into a real political force here and throughout Europe or is to remain a diffuse protest movement of environmentalists and pacifists.

At issue are two vital questions dividing the party into realists and fundamentalists: Whether the Greens should cooperate with the opposition Social Democrats, sharing power in state parliaments, or whether they should remain a "rotational" principle.

The bitter differences in the collective leadership and in the party base have been glossed over in the euphoria following a string of successes in state and local elections which have made the Greens the third political force in West Germany, ahead of the hapless Free Democrats.

They now have about 11 per cent of the vote and are represented in six of the 11 state parliaments.

But the recent abrupt abrogation by the Greens in Hesse of their 24-week alliance with the ruling Social Democrats has raised questions about the party's willingness to take on real political responsibility.

The Social Democrats, who until now have handled the Greens with kid gloves in the hope of enticing them into a loose alliance to outvote the Christian Democrats, are now taking a harder line. They have gone on the offensive in Hesse and are accusing the Greens of irresponsibility and deceiving the idealists who support them.

Under the rotation principle, all 27 members of the Bundestag faction are due to resign in March. This is now opposed by most of the MPs themselves, especially Herr Otto Schily, the former party speaker who has emerged as its most effective and influential MP, on the grounds that it robs the party of its experienced activists.

A Greens spokesman said yesterday that Mr Arthur Sengul, the British miners' leader, had been invited to address the congress. The party recently announced a donation to support miners' families.

Nineteen cashed officers are still jailed in Korydallos prison near Athens, serving long sentences for high treason and overthrowing democracy in Greece for seven years. Three have died since the sentencing.

One male passenger suffered a heart attack during the excitement. He was flown to a hospital in Athens, where he died. The rest of the passengers when the ship reached Dakar.

Only two days after the fire, an elderly woman passenger woke up in her cabin under the mistaken impression she was alone on board. She tried to escape through the porthole. But was spotted by a crew member, who grabbed her before she fell.

The managers of the RMS St Helena, Carnarvon Shipping of Helston, Cornwall, said yesterday that the vessel was now completing trials at Dakar before sailing for Cape Town, its other regular port of call.

The ship was on its way home to Avonmouth, towards the end of a seven-week round trip, and was about 270 miles south-west of Freetown, Sierra Leone, when the fire started in the engine room at about 10.30pm.

The 31 passengers, most of them British, took to the lifeboats, and these were swung out, but now lowered into the water, while the crew struggled to stop the fire reaching the fuel tanks. When the worst danger was over, they spent the night on deck.

The blaze was brought under control in 24 hours and the disabled ship was finally taken in tow by a West German salvage tug, a British tanker, Overseas Argonaut, had also been standing by. The 3,150-ton ship was then towed to Dakar.

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Rome trial order for 197 leftists

Rome — Signor Domenico Pittella, doctor and until recently a Socialist senator, is among 197 left wingers whom the Rome public prosecutor has asked, after a long investigation, to be sent for trial on charges of insurrection against the State (John Earle writes).

The former senator, expelled from his party when investigations were opened against him, is already under house arrest awaiting trial for aiding and abetting terrorists because he is alleged to have sheltered and treated in his nursing home an injured Red Brigade member, Natalia Ligas.

Malta approves Libya pact

Valletta (Reuters) — Malta's Parliament has approved a friendship and co-operation treaty with Libya which pledges military support if the Mediterranean island is threatened. A neutrality pact with Italy has been ended, Mr Dom Mintoff, Malta's Prime Minister, said.

Opposition defies Zia

Islamabad (AFP) — Opposition leaders in Pakistan yesterday openly defied a threat by President Zia ul-Haq to jail anyone calling for a boycott of his December 19 referendum on proposals to extend Islamic law. A spokesman for the movement for the restoration of Democracy told foreign reporters that the organization intended to keep up its campaign for a boycott of the vote.

Fishermen freed

Taipei (AP) — The Soviet Union has released a Taiwanese fishing boat and its 14 crew after holding them captive since September, the fishermen's association reported.

Aids death

Bangkok (AP) — Thailand's first victim of the fatal disease Aids, a Thai in his 20s, has died here. He contracted Aids while studying in the United States.

Exercise time

Louisville, Kentucky (AP) — Mr William Schroeder, the mechanical heart recipient, has taken a 12-step walk and may go for wheelchair ride today for a change of scenery, a hospital official said here.

CATE
CRMA NOTTINGHAM
LE BAL PG
CATE ROOMS
HOTEL NEW HAMPSHIRE
FINAL WEEK FINAL WEEK

Opera
Zeffirelli
stea

Expensive

Christmas Catalog

Christmas Catalog

Rioja on Christmas

THE ARTS

Opera: John Higgins in Florence

Zeffirelli's majestic vision steals the glory

La traviata
Teatro comunale

Florence began their summer season with a *Rigoletto*, widely directed by Yuri Lyubimov, that attracted derision and full houses. *La traviata*, opening the winter season this week, has a staging by Franco Zeffirelli of much authority and majesty. Again it was sold out before it started, but this time at curtain-fall the only sound to be heard was of cheering for the young Italian soprano Cecilia Gasdia, who shamefully has yet to be heard in London: for Carlos Kleiber making one of his increasingly rare appearances in the pit; and for Zeffirelli himself.

Zeffirelli has lived long with Verdi's *La traviata*, first back in the Callas years and more recently on film. And at Florence Zeffirelli the stage producer borrows quite a lot from Zeffirelli the movie director. During the Act I prelude there is a distant image of Violetta on her death-bed. What follows, such is the implication, are emotions and feelings relived. It may be argued that all this is there already in the score for those with the ears to listen.

But Zeffirelli's opening does make the point that much of *Traviata* is about living under the threat of

imminent death. And in the film Violetta is almost suffocated by her surroundings: the draped curtain, the ornate mirrors, the immense tapestries, the chandeliers heavy under their own weight. Zeffirelli the designer has always been half in love with clutter and here he uses it to mighty effect. But Zeffirelli the film director also insists on the occasional close-up, so that for the first moment of intimacy in Act I, "Un di felice", the scenery vanishes (a bit noisily) so that Violetta and Alfredo are left alone by the fireside.

The same device is used in the next act during Flora's party. One moment the stage is filled with gypsies and torches - for once the "Spanish" ballet is performed with real panache - and the next Violetta and Alfredo are alone in their private quarrel.

The core of the production is the difference between social life and private life. The first, for Violetta, is a killer; the second brings a little happiness, especially before the curtain goes up on Act II, a ravishingly designed winter garden in the St Germain-en-Laye house.

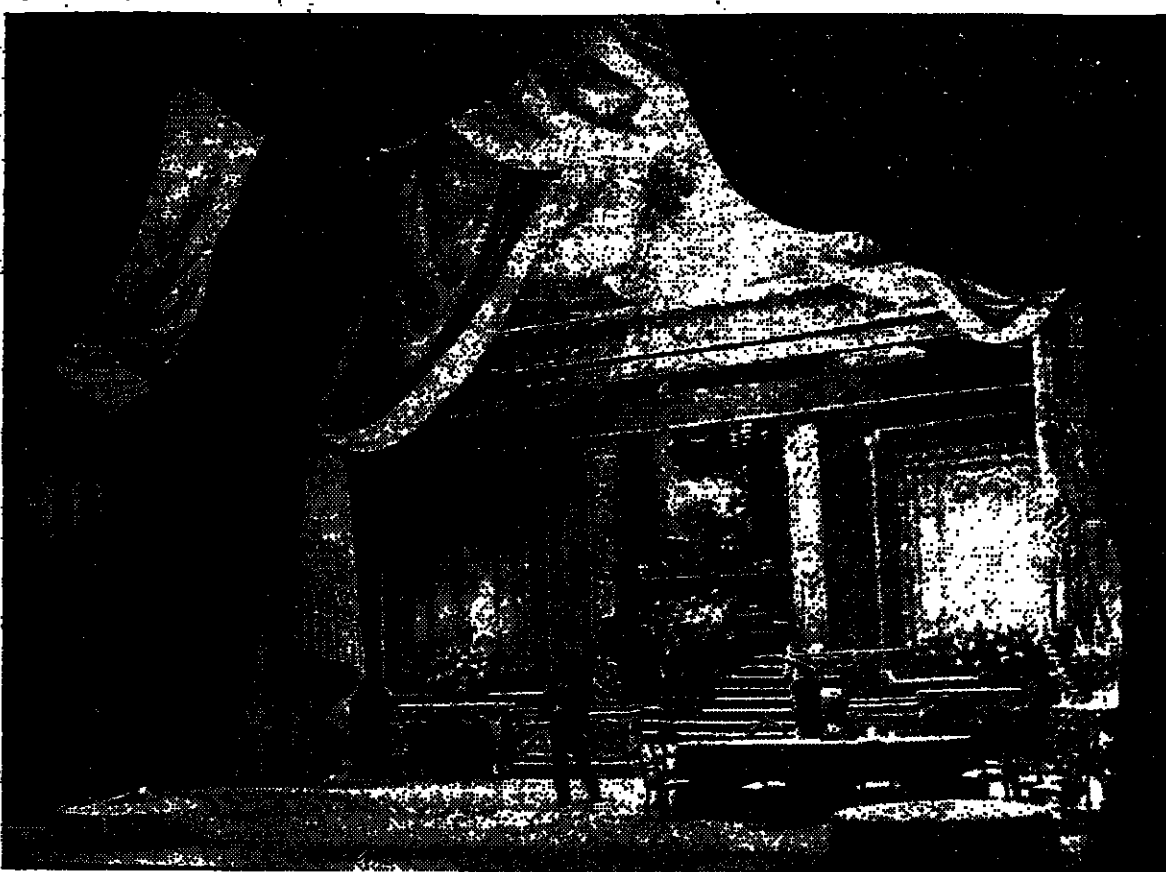
Violetta herself is one of Zeffirelli's line of little girls - *Romeo and Juliet*, *Brother Sun, Sister Moon*. Cecilia Gasdia's tiny frame makes her look as much like a Giselle as a Violetta.

The long black hair, framing the pallid oval face, is an irresistible reminder of the famous portrait of Marie-Alphonse Plessis, the original lady of the camellias. Gasdia's own portrait, which looks to have had Zeffirelli's very careful guidance, is far removed from the conventional prima donna. Her Violetta is a frail creature, constantly looking for support, whether in the heart-breaking Act I cry "Amami Alfredo" or just the solidity of a piece of furniture to cling to.

The voice is neither particularly brilliant nor large, although it does cut through the Act II finale. But it is marvellously controlled, especially in the pianissimo passages - "Dite alla giovine" was a model from both conductor and soprano. And it has a colouring that can switch from sorrow to joy in an instant. In this and many other ways Gasdia recalls the young Contraltos - high praise.

Peter Dvorsky's Alfredo is cut of much rougher cloth. Gasdia would have been better matched with a more highly-strung and lyrical tenor such as Schicoff. Giorgio Zancanaro's Germont père on the other hand was a true bastion of bourgeois society and his sense of Verdian legato ensured that "Di Provenza" received an ovation. But many of the supporting roles were weakly cast.

Carlos Kleiber demanded at times a diaphanous sound which the Florence strings were not always able to provide. He aimed at a nervous refinement in which nothing was heard in a week of opera house performances - the first Solti at Covent Garden, now Kleiber in



A love of clutter used to spectacular effect in Act III

Florence - in which magical effects have been obtained through total restraint.

Thanks to the Kleiber-Gasdia-Zeffirelli combination Florence may this week have stolen a little operatic glory before La Scala opens tonight with *Carmen*. There has never been a

shortage of rivalry between the Italian houses. It would have been hard to discover the fact in the Florence programme, but this *Traviata* is a co-production with Covent Garden. It comes to London in October 1986 with Carlos Kleiber conducting.

Cinema

Expensive toys for grown-up infants

Ghostbusters (PG)
Odeon Leicester Square

Gremlins (15)
Warner West End

A Christmas Carol (U)
Classics Haymarket, Oxford Street

In less than half a year, *Ghostbusters* and *Gremlins* have together earned something between three and a half and four hundred million dollars in America alone. That may be no more than a tiny percentage of the gross national expenditure or even the defence budget, but it is money on a scale that few of us can begin to comprehend.

What makes the phenomenon interesting is that the films in question, far from being extraordinary, innovative or in any way elevating to the imagination, are banal, foolish and mechanical. They are costly and calculated industrial products, garish plastic toys for the grown-up infants who (to judge only from this box-office success) constitute the main population of our English-speaking world.

Their conception and characters are those of comic strip. Their subjects are elemental notions of alien invaders from other worlds. Their scripts dispense with any conventional requirement of dramatic argument or logic. With hindsight, it is possible to attribute their huge success to two elements in the formula. Above all there is the reliance upon special effects. The effects specialists have today become the masters of Hollywood: on the titles of both these films, "Special Visual Effects Unit" credits outnumber the rest, and certainly account for a major proportion of the huge budgets.

Then there is the sly mixing of terror and comedy. Audiences are invited to partake of all the old infantile thrills of

horror movies and at the same time to mock with laughter both the style and their own fears. The voluntary regression to a comic-strip stage of intellectual development is excused by the illusion of sophisticated, cynical detachment.

Ghostbusters, for example, is really a comic version of a solemn, silly horror film, *The Sentinel*, directed by Michael Winner: a New York apartment house turns out to be the gateway to an infernal world. The comedy is provided by the team of Bill Murray, who specializes in characters of impervious slobbishness, Dan Ackroyd and Harold Ramis, who also wrote the string of shocking verbal quips that does for a script. Not unreasonably thrown off the university campus, these three set up as professional ghostbusters, and are called on to relieve New York of its supernatural visitations, which include some Disneyland ghosts and a giant Marshmallow Man who stalks the city like a sugar-puff King Kong.

The film's team and director Ivan Reitman, came to the fore with *Animal House*, an early demonstration of their ability to give the public what it wants. Like *Gremlins*, *Ghostbusters* was honoured with a showing at the London Film Festival. On that occasion, a gentle Scandinavian lady in the audience stood up, hurt and near to tears, to ask Mr Reitman if he were not ashamed to use so much money for a film that only tended to degrade the audience. Mr Reitman was so fervently supported by the National Film Theatre audience, as a whole, that any of us who felt inclined to support the lady were in the event far too cowardly.

Ghostbusters is perhaps preferable to *Gremlins*, which is more calculatedly ingratiating, and not in the same way. The little creatures who spawn and terrorize a nice middle-American township are bad and are horrid, but when they are good they are very, very good, as cute and cuddly as E.T., and as well conceived to earn further millions in the toy market.



Slavitz Jovan in the chief ghost's most human manifestation in *Ghostbusters*

The society of the little town very self-consciously recalls the world of old Frank Capra films, as does the sweet and wacky family who launch the gremlins when the inventor father brings one home as a pet for his young son. The nasty rich widow bent on having the lad's dog put to sleep is a dead ringer for Margaret Hamilton, who had the same designs on Judy Garland's pup in *The Wizard of Oz*.

It is because this world is so familiar that the invasion of the alien beings is so sinister, and the sinister quality seems a metaphor for the neuroses of the times.

All this may or may not be too great a weight of significance to lay upon this childish tale, which does have its moments of pleasure - like the *Gremlins* night at the picture

show, singing along with the Seven Dwarfs. The film, was produced by Steven Spielberg, proving once again his ability to predict audience tastes, and directed by Joe Dante, whose earlier pictures of menacing communities were *Piranha* and *The Howling*.

Anyone staging the *Carol* is necessarily committed to the Christmas card scene and landscapes since, after all, they owe their place in the folklore in large part to this very work. Elsewhere though the director Clive Donner has been remarkably successful in ridding the tale of much of 140 years' accretion of sentimentality. He has restored a good deal of the toughness that is inherent in the original, this may well be the first adaptation which has retained the vision of the famine children, Want and Ignorance, and it is presented as dreadfully as it should be.

Much of the toughness comes from the casting of George C. Scott as Scrooge. He is not the wizened eccentric miser that Leach's illustrations tend to make him, but a pillar of capitalism. His position is often rational if not charitable or likeable; and his resistance to reform is quite spirited. Dickens, as the film reminds us, gave him spirit and humour, and some nice one-liners in his encounters with the ghosts.

In other regards the film is admirably faithful to Dickens and Leach in recreating the landscape and figures of the book. Edward Woodward is a marvellously Bacchic Ghost of Christmas Present. David Warner and Roger Rees make Cratchit and Nephew Fred charming without being soppy, and Susanannah York is a graceful Mrs Cratchit. Even for the most demanding Dickensian this should be an innocent, old-fashioned Christmas treat.

David Robinson

The Desert Air
Other Place, Stratford

Taking off from the history of the Special Operations Executive, Nicholas Wright's play offers a comically high-powered account of how we inadvertently won the war in Yugoslavia through backstairs intrigue in the Secret Service.

The time is 1942, when Britain was supporting the inactive Chetnik resistance army before belatedly switching allegiance to Tito's partisans who went on to liberate Belgrade. Not much of this background is known to the personnel of Dangerous Operations Groundforce (DOG), whose Cairo office resembles a Whitehall club until the arrival of Colonel Gore as its new director.

Marvellously played by Geoffrey Hutchings with an anguished gut overhanging his Sam Browne belt and the neck-thrusts of an angry turkey, Gore - alias Hippo - is an under-sized, lower middle-class paranoid empire-builder. Who is winning the Balkans he neither knows nor cares so long as the operation adds another pip to his shoulder. And, after zealously cooking up fictions on behalf of the foot-dragging Chetniks, he conducts an ingenious volte face, but only to be cheated by the arrival of a "tall blue-blooded, pointy" young brigadier to lead the mission to Tito.

Hippo's sad story is inset in a crowded, picaresque of the British in Cairo. And if the result falls short of farce it is only because Mr Wright understands that any life leaves nothing for any farce writer to add. The opening scene shows Montgomery pausing in mid-briefing to examine a tank. Engines roar, the doors slide open amid clouds of smoke and nothing appears; whereupon warm approval is expressed at this master-stroke of British camouflage.

Elsewhere, the DOG members charge off to conduct conspicuously drilled slithering in night clubs, and inspect Yugoslav patriots billeted in an outlying brothel. Hippo speaks for them all in his conspiratorial line: "I will remain in the centre of the yard and simulate normal behaviour."

Hippo's horrendous impact on the former merchant bankers and Cambridge redds who comprise his underlings can be imagined. But in the case of his

Theatre

The Carrier
Frequency ICA

As a writer of best-sellers, Russell Hoban ought to be good box-office, and a collaboration with the Impact Theatre performance art company, whose *Useful Vices* was gripping a couple of years ago, looked promising. But *The Carrier Frequency* is not the sort of stuff to convert Hoban-lovers, or anyone else, to performance art.

Thin and repetitive to a degree, it gives almost no scope to Hoban's witty way with the banal verbal detritus of city life, and exhibits his characteristic vein of nonsense-language to the extent of proving it intolerable in the theatre.

After a recorded treble takes us through that psalm about the waters of Babylon, doxology

closest colleague, Pagan, it amounts to outright hatred. Pagan (Peter Eyre) has hitherto lived by the code of gentlemanly honesty, but circumstances now require him to lie.

In Adrian Noble's production the play takes on tremendous panache and progressively splinters staff stereotypes under the weight of human diversity.

Irving Wardle

and all, the cast of six arrive and penetrate the plastic sheeting that initially hides the set, from which the unexpected sound of splashing announces their entry into a pool of tears. In the lake sit two pier-like structures and a table, on to which performers repeatedly splash handfuls of water and scrutinize them feverishly. They are not, it seems, seeking North Sea oil but symbolizing the fruitless minutiae of the arms-race conference table. This continues for almost half the show.

Above them, women broadcast insidious propaganda to someone called Ernie in elaborately repetitive gobbledygook. One may lose nuances in 30 minutes of nonsense spoken over heavy music, but there are evident incitements to bash the bastards who dropped the last bomb, larded with flattering references to Ernie's virility and flashes of Hoban humour (the fanning fish, I thought, was especially good value).

The climax is reached as three actors dislodge each other from their stations in bellows frenzy, intensifying their scrambling on the table, fall on their knees in the water for frantic prayer (driving off rival supplicants in an image of religious schism) and carry out each other as corpses from successive cataclysms.

Anthony Masters

Television Explosive whirl

Charles Dance is a contained-looking man and physically impressive. One would like to have him by in an emergency. It was obvious from the opening of BBC's three-part drama *The Second Step*, which began last night, will continue tonight and conclude tomorrow, that he currently faces a considerable challenge to his sang-froid.

Brian Clemens's adaptation of Gavin Lyall's book, directed by Alastair Reid, had the stock, understated start that marks these big-drama espionage thrillers, the action too impatient to await the conclusion of the credit titles. Mr Dance, or Major Harry Maxim as we shall know him here - and even the name has an explosive connotation - is one minute racing up a desert dune to see a plane explode, then suddenly, our curiosity roused but deliberately left unsatisfied, we are in a Glasgow hospital with a dying man despatching a letter that is obviously going to bode ill to a Mr Jackman.

I think we had finished the credits before we saw the recipient, after apologising to his bemused wife for being such an inadequate husband, walk down the garden with his Purdy, conjugating the verb peccare, to blow his head off. It was safe, I thought, to assume that this was not to stone for his marital failings.

It was a whirl throughout: a lecherous nuclear strategist and professor (Dan O'Herlihy), murderous KGB men, smooth Cambridge intelligence types - all pieces of a jigsaw which we may sort out later, though it does not matter too much in these affairs if we do not.

I feel that the SAS's Major Maxim will sort everybody out. On his way to No 10 to meet the Prime Minister ("Mother Bear"), they presumptuously call her, who would ask him to keep an eye on the pro-labor's security - a duty that will involve watching his lechery, too - he dealt with a grenade thrower without even pausing.

"Instinct", he modestly told his doubting sidekick Agnes Algar (Jill Meagher). I did not much care for her. Too cynical. But I thought the mystic's Czech last words, Zuzana Kina, played by Rom Anderson, promised well in the KGB shoot-out. She and the widowed major seem meant for each other if there are to be survivors.

Rest Boys are young male prostitutes who, apparently, abound in Britain's major cities. Richard Belfield's *Forty Minutes* on BBC2 talked to several of them. The programme held the interest at first and seemed to be going somewhere. Alas, it was in circles.

Dennis Hackett

BBCSO/Pritchard
Festival Hall/Radio 3

To perform such a work as *A Mass of Life* at all adequately now must take an act of musical quixotry such as probably only the BBC could do association with the Royal Philharmonic Society, as happened on Wednesday. It is not inferior to other major works of Delius, but somewhat more extravagant in orchestral resources, as well as in the emotional fervour derived from the poetry of Nietzsche, whose paganism today is a commonplace, which no Delius music could ever be.

Sir John Pritchard conducted a performance which I would describe as more satisfying than memorable. He exaggerated nothing, certainly not the passion, or the temptation to mock-dramatics.

The opening chorus had the requisite vigour and exuberance, with the BBC Singers and Chorus in responsive voice. But the double fugue of the first dance song demanded altogether stronger entries if it was not to sound redolent of Grecian tunes on a playing field, which the second dance song in the later part of the work perhaps more excusably evokes.

Benjamin Luxon propounded the Nietzschean sentiments with a generally warm assurance once he was past the first exhortation to dance and to laugh, which found him with an unexpected sense of strain. Later his self-questioning thoughtfulness took us with him, even to accepting his calm invitation to contemplate the eternity of death. I am not sure that Alfredo Hodgson heard himself as the incarnation of life in one of her early contralto entries, but still Terese Cahill and Arthur Davies, soprano and tenor, to form a spirited trio.

The conductor made much of the orchestral interludes, with some wonderfully expressive instrumental playing, from the BBC Symphony Orchestra that highlighted such details as the beautiful writing for the dark-toned instruments, especially the bass clarinet and cor anglais.

On the other hand, the prelude to Part 2 lacked the poetic feeling in the horn playing, both on stage and off, to be the tone-poem of a mountain dawn.

Noël Goodwin

Concerts
Music and Revolution
Bloomsbury Theatre

From appearances at Riverside and the Almeida, the group Music and Revolution have now graduated with their educational early Soviet cabaret to an Arts Council Contemporary Music Network tour. This is perhaps their Stalinist phase. The programme is ostensibly much as it was, but the presentation is a whole lot slicker, more ironic. Which is fine for Mayakovsky, caught in the full flight of egotistical hysteria in Teddy Kempner's enactments of the poems.

One may feel, though, that patronizing the material has got out of hand when Prokofiev and Lourie are represented by weak pieces indifferently performed, and killed stone-dead by being preceded by someone's memoirs of them as stupidly vain young men. It is a bit tactless, too, to sing Alexander Mosolov's nursery pictures and Nikolay Obukhov's ecstatic expostulations with the same amused surprise: Mosolov was indeed an ironist in the

tradition of Mussorgsky and Shostakovich, but Obukhov was simply mad, and madness demands a certain respect.

In the second half of their concert Music and Revolution are offering a new piece by Edison Denisov, whose reputation in the West may well be disproportionate. Fifteen years ago he seemed the great hope of Soviet music, but the more recent works have been more disappointing, and *The Blue Notebook* was no exception. Its main delights are all in the words, by two writers of the 1920s, Kharmas and Vvedensky; there are macabre funny stories, brilliantly delivered by Grigori Gerstenfeld, interlarded with songs of a delicate imagery skating over a lyric.

Bizetness and fragility are also fitting qualities of the music, for violin, cello, piano and prepared piano accompanying the soprano (Jane Manning), but there is an awful lot of mumbly shadowy figuration that barely goes beyond setting a dream-like atmosphere. Revolutions should be made of sterner stuff.

Paul Griffiths

Rioja and Christmas

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The Greek Passion

Dominion

Martin's *The Greek Passion* is an improving opera, full of stirring effects and noble sentiments. The composer worked long and hard on it, completing the last of several revisions in 1959, but he did not live to see its premiere in 1961. He adapted the libretto himself from a translation of Kazantzakis's novel *Christ Recrucified*.

The story of Greek villagers taken over by and in the end destroyed by the roles they have been allotted in their annual Passion play is a powerful one full of parallels for those who might try to identify latter-day Christs and Judases.

But the blandness of the music destroys the strength of the subject. There are enough sonorous choruses for several oratorios, but the soloists lack really memorable music. The orchestral interludes are effective and were here splendidly played under Anthony Negus.

The opera can work as pure spectacle. This Welsh National Opera production, first seen in 1981, is the only one on this

WNO in London

country. In the United States, the School of Music at Indiana University mounted it in 1981 and brought it to the Met in a production which went in for massive vistas of the Greek village and crowd upon crowd of villagers and refugees.

WNO's resources are more modest, and it was a tribute to Michael Geliot's direction that the story came across so strongly; the central characterizations are well drawn, from Jeffrey Lawton's beefy yet innocent Manolios, the Christ figure, to Phyllis Cannan's typically searing, clear Katerina, the Mary Magdalene figure. Among the rest John Tranter's Grigoris is a vividly nasty piece of work as the local priest and dictator, and in the final tragedy, Anthony Mee's Judas figure seems to stab Manolios in a crazed quest for the approval of his masters.

The strongest sections are the first and last acts; the central scenes are too busy and (here at least) too strong out with pauses. But the opera continuously looks interesting, thanks to John Gunter's designs and the distinction of a couple of passing goats.

Nicholas Kenyon

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SPECTRUM

Self-made millionaire Gilbert Kaplan's love for Mahler's Second Symphony has made him famous for conducting it - despite having virtually no music training. Sally Brompton reports

One man's magnificent obsession

A self-made millionaire and real-life Walter Mitty will stand up on the stage of the Royal Festival Hall this Sunday and lead the London Symphony Orchestra through one of the world's most demanding compositions - Gustav Mahler's Second Symphony, *The Resurrection*. Gilbert Kaplan, a 43-year-old American publisher whose previous musical experience consisted of three years of piano lessons as a small child, and playing the French horn at summer camp, has conducted the 90-minute symphony just four times before. It is the only piece in his repertoire, and he performs it from memory. In the words of the music critic of *The New York Times*: "Mr Kaplan has taken amateurism to a level almost beyond the comprehension."

over", he recalls. "I found myself weeping uncontrollably." It was the start of a love affair as passionate and enduring as any in literature. Wherever *The Resurrection* was playing he would go to hear it. Even so, it was not until four years ago that his obsession reached the realms of what was commonly regarded as lunacy. By now, Kaplan was a millionaire, the publisher and editor-in-chief of his own award-winning magazine, *Institutional Investor*, a happily married man with three children. He had heard *The Resurrection* dozens of times and knew as much about it as anyone in the world, but it was not enough. Kaplan decided there was only one way to penetrate the core of Mahler's Second - to conduct it himself. For more than a year his pipe-dream germinated. "Every time I cut down by somebody whose judgment I really trusted," the experts told him it was impossible. His friends told him he was mad. Finally his wife said to him: "If you're going to do it you might as well get started" - so he did.



Gilbert Kaplan: "I would never conduct anything else. I just wanted to get inside this one piece."

By now he had a plan. Rather than embark upon the entire 209-page opus in one go he would break it down into 12 separate movements and test himself out on the first. "I decided that if I could learn all the conducting techniques required in that first movement - which is, after all, as long as many Mozart symphonies - I would go ahead with the rest." He managed to find a young conductor prepared to help him. Charles Bernstein, now musical director of the Newfoundland Symphony, spent the whole of August 1981 teaching Kaplan how to conduct, working nine hours a day, for 30 days without a break. Gilbert

Kaplan devoted himself to learning the intricate techniques required to master the first 22 minutes of *The Resurrection*. Barely able to read music when he started, he decided that in order to demonstrate his credibility he would have to memorize the entire symphony - something that few professionals would attempt. "I felt that if I was going to fail I wanted to fail knowing I'd done everything I could," explains Kaplan. By the end of August he had mastered the rudiments of conducting and memorized the first movement of the symphony. He then hired the 119-piece American Symphony Orchestra for a morning.

After weeks of practising to recordings in his home, he was unprepared for the sheer magnitude of the orchestra and the stage. He raised his baton and prepared for his first much-rehearsed downbeat but when he reached the bottom of his stroke nothing happened. Just silence. "My God", thought Kaplan, "they're not going to play for me." Half a second later the sound came. "That was my first real lesson of conducting," says Kaplan. "I hadn't realized that your heart becomes before the musicians play." When the rehearsal ended, the orchestra laid down their instruments and applauded him. "It was obviously not for my conducting

skill", says Kaplan. "It was because they shared my enthusiasm for what I was trying to do." For the next 12 months he spent at least six hours a day working on the symphony - three hours before he left for work in the morning, another three when he got home at night. Movement by movement he worked with the orchestra until he had memorized and rehearsed the complete symphony, a section at a time. He travelled the world to attend all 15 performances of *The Resurrection* held that year, in places as far apart as Australia and Amsterdam, Tokyo and Vienna, collaring every conductor who would give him advice. He flew to London to see Sir Georg Solti who spent two hours with him, playing the piano while Kaplan conducted. And, after a few months, he found that not only was the music profession taking him seriously but the conductors themselves were questioning him about how other orchestras handled the symphony. "Before I decided to go ahead I received nothing but discouragement", says Kaplan. "But once I committed myself to doing it I was adopted by a few people as a mascot." Even Charles Bernstein regarded him as his Eliza Doolittle. "He wanted to prove something to himself", says Kaplan. "A lot of people lived out their fantasies through what I was doing."

By the beginning of September 1982 he was ready to attempt the entire symphony without a score. He hired New York's Avery Fisher Hall, the American Symphony Orchestra and a 200-voice choir for his public debut, timing it to coincide with the 15th anniversary celebrations of his magazine and the end of the International Monetary Fund meeting in Toronto. His invited audience of 2,700 was the world's most powerful financiers - his magazine's most influential readers. "When I walked out on to the podium that night I was nervous", admits Kaplan. "But I felt that the audience and the orchestra and choir were more nervous than I was. I looked out and I just saw all these frightened faces in front of me. Everybody identified in some way with what I was doing and if I had failed I think they would have failed too."

As the final notes of the Second Symphony died away that evening there was a deadly silence before the entire black-tied audience rose to their feet and gave Gilbert Kaplan a five-minute standing ovation. They

were applauding a man who had had the courage to risk his reputation to realize his dream. But they were also applauding a musician who, according to *Newsweek*, "conducted with a control and ardour that awed even some professionals". The whole exercise had cost Gilbert Kaplan more than £100,000 and so far as he was concerned that was the end of it. But the musical world thought otherwise. The American Symphony Orchestra invited him to conduct them again at Carnegie Hall, a guest performance in Japan followed and now Gilbert Kaplan is in Britain, at the invitation of the London Symphony Orchestra, to lead them through *The Resurrection* on Sunday at the Royal Festival Hall. "It takes a lot of courage for an orchestra to invite me", says Kaplan. "There are so many professional conductors available."

He recently bought, for an undisclosed sum, Gustav Mahler's original handwritten score of *The Resurrection* which he feels has given him a further insight into the symphony. "I don't consider myself to be a professional conductor at all", says Kaplan. "but I do feel that musicians know that I love this piece of music."

"One of life's tragedies is that so few people are willing to take the risk of finding out if they can pursue their dreams - let alone actually pursuing them."

After performing in Tokyo earlier this year he decided to sell his magazine. "I was beginning to question the wisdom of having so much at stake and devoting what I regarded as less than the time an owner should devote to his company. I decided I had to make a choice." He sold the publication, which he started with \$150,000 of investors' money for \$70 million but he remains editor-in-chief.

In retrospect, he admits that setting out to conduct *The Resurrection* from nothing was insane. "I would certainly never have attempted it if I had known then what I know now", he says. "I would never conduct anything else. I'm not trying to prove I can climb Everest. I just wanted to get inside this one piece of music that I love and I thought I might be able to express what I felt about the music when I conducted it."

"Now I don't think I can get any closer."

The heartland of quiet decency... or the capital of smug mediocrity. Alan Franks visits Southgate as voters and parties prepare for Thursday's by-election

The soul of Southgate is a tricky thing to find during the day, for the simple reason that it has gone to London. It will filter back again in the early evening along the Piccadilly line to Lockfosters or the Moorgate overground to Winchmore Hill, those two great conduits of middle-class commuterdom. For Southgate proper, which is but one part of the parliamentary constituency of Enfield Southgate, this is the age of the Tube. Every few minutes the trains come crashing out into the open air somewhere between Bounds Green and Arnos Grove, having burrowed with the minimum delay beneath the north London sprawl between King's Cross and Finsbury Park.

As with so many commuter wedges around London, the story of the place is indivisible from the story of the track. As the line advanced, so the housing developments fanned out from the shops during the two great building waves in the first 30 years of the century - three-bedroom semis striding blamelessly over the undulations of Palmers Green and Oakwood Park and glancing back at the politely distant skyline of the City. The uniform architecture of the stations looks impossibly dated now. The brick rotundas with their funny bobbles on top dot their way up the map at regular intervals - icons to the force that made this brand of suburbia possible. Clustered in the lee are the usual crowd - the NatWest, Liberty Cleaners, the newsagent, the Hairtique, Cokes Wine Bar, Just A Second (cocktail and party dresses £9.99, sequin skirts £1.99), Hector Macdonald, turf accountant, est 1920. Depending on your point of view, you are standing in the



Metroland: Southgate station in 1933 and today.

heartland of quiet decency or the capital of smug mediocrity. It seems incongruous that this place should now be the focus of such attention. The only thing that makes sense about it all is that, on one level, the by-election is not about Southgate at all, but about the succession to a man killed by the IRA bomb in Brighton on October 12. It will also be one of the last elections to attract the full spectrum of eccentric candidates. The raised deposit level will become law in May or June.

This is safe Tory terrain, with a low unemployment rate of around 8 per cent, and owner-occupation in more than 75 per cent of homes. The taxi driver puts it thus: "Course, now we've got all the Greeks and Pakkies coming in. Personally, I'd send them straight back home, although I know you can't do that really. I blame it all on, not Winnie Churchill, you know, that other geezer, yes. Atlee, that's the fellow, for getting them all over in the first place to do the jobs, the road-building and that."

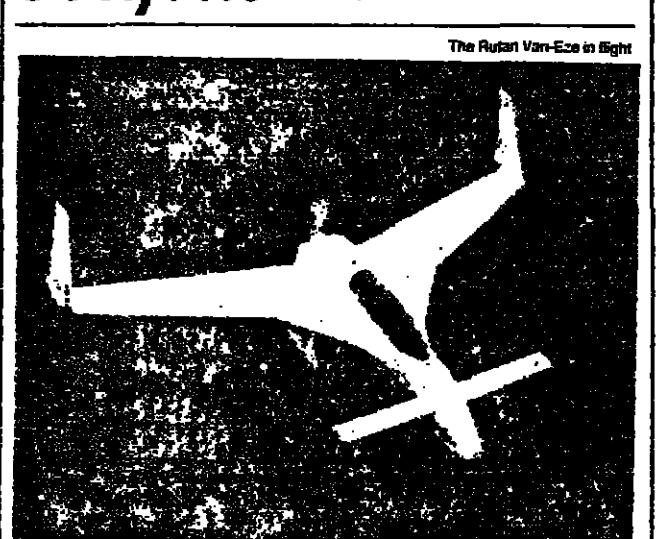
What's all this about a racial problem? In Southgate? Surely not. The 1981 census revealed 1,719 Irish, 705 West Indians, 1,595 from the Indian sub-continent, 7,286 "other New Commonwealth", and 4,032 from elsewhere. In a constituency with an electorate of 66,644, that does not sound like great influx. Indeed, the immigration population is now reckoned to stand at 20 per cent, again considerably lower than the London average.

Even in Winchmore Hill, at the council homes in Carpenter Gardens, there have been nightmare stories of the kind you normally associate with a high-rise borough in the East End - families without one habitable room during winter work, rotting sills, holes in the floorboards, and shoddy wiring. But, with the council sector accounting for only 10 per cent, it is the mortgage rate rather than the renovation programme which will weigh on the soul of Southgate as it casts its vote on Thursday.

As with many revised constituencies, there is something rather artificial about the creature that emerged in 1974, which is essentially the old seat of Southgate, with bits of the defunct Enfield West. Today, the actual borough of Enfield takes in three parliamentary constituencies, Enfield North, Edmonton and Enfield Southgate. It that leaves you confused, you are in good local

Tomorrow
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Theatres are more and more dominated by the radio mike, a small device which enables your voice (and any taxi cab in the area) to be heard throughout the theatre. On one of the first nights of *Starlight Express*, it is reported, the cast were neutralized for half the show by the BBC TV van outside and could make no noise. But other, more piquant stories are told about radio mikes, as this selection of readers' letters shows.

From Jack Pierrepont
Sir, I am a London cabbie on a small radio link with South London, so I was very surprised the other month to get voices coming through my intercom in the West End. It's well out of range there, see. Anyway, I started listening and I soon realized that I had tuned in to some play in Shaftesbury Avenue.

Now, I am not what you would call a literary gent, so it was all new to me and, I may say, a revelation. If all you hear all day long is "Jack, get over to Puncy Bridge, would you?"

very well, thank you, so it's goodbye to acting.

From Inspector Millmass of the Yard
Sir, I was recently called out to a most unusual case, in a meat freezing depot. The night watchman had heard voices coming from one of the biggest freezers. When he got there, he could hear someone calling "Out! Out!" or something similar.

Now, here's the funny thing. When we opened the electronically-controlled doors there was nobody inside. In some strange way the electrical apparatus was picking up a nearby production of Macbeth. So may I urge everyone not to use sophisticated electronics in the vicinity of a production of Macbeth.

From Mrs Kate Wheatley
Sir, I live near Heathrow, so as you can imagine my life is made miserable. Not by the noise of the planes, though. No, the thing is that I wear a hearing aid, over which I keep getting messages like "Please extinguish all cigarettes and return to your seats."

moreover... Miles Kingston

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ACROSS

- 1 Upright (6)
- 2 Credentials (6)
- 3 Hard-wearing grass (3)
- 4 Renounce (6)
- 5 Tool (6)
- 6 Social climber (4)
- 7 Charity TV programme (8)
- 8 Light bracket (6)
- 9 Away (6)
- 10 Solitary person (4,4)
- 11 Sound (4)
- 12 Sea channel (6)
- 13 Class (6)
- 14 Whimsical child (3)
- 15 Shredder (6)
- 16 Woman warrior (6)

DOWN

- 1 Civic (5)
- 2 Louis XVI's dynasty (7)
- 3 Respire (7)
- 4 Drive bicycle (5)
- 5 Turning point (5)
- 6 Made to measure (9)
- 7 Loo (4)
- 8 Collected (11)
- 9 Manic (6)
- 10 Inconvenience (11)
- 11 2 Adjoints (3)
- 12 3 Stock car (4)
- 13 5 Mote (6)
- 14 4 Butter (6)
- 15 20 Offend (2)
- 16 23 Garg (6)
- 17 Lucerne (7)
- 18 Oder valley region (7)
- 19 Precise (5)
- 20 Lutra lutra (5)
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FRIDAY PAGE

Ian Woodward talks to the barefoot ragamuffin with star quality who shuns the limelight

Why Greta could be another Garbo

Greta Scacchi is being called "a young Glenda Jackson" and "a latter-day Garbo". All sorts of names have been given to this self-assured daughter of an Italian painter father and an English mother since she won international acclaim last year as the errant merrymaid Olivia in the film *Heat and Dust*.

And certainly she seems to be one of the most exciting young actresses to emerge in Britain for a decade.

She is only just 24 and there seems no stopping her. On Sunday she co-stars with Laurence Olivier on independent television in *The Ebony Tower*, two days later American viewers will see her as the tragic heroine in the film *Camille*, which has its British premiere in the New Year, and Channel 4 is soon to screen her six-part Australian series, *Waterfront*.

The comparisons with double Oscar-winner Glenda Jackson are particularly apt. Both actresses have a reluctance to act "the star" in public, an almost heightened fastidiousness over the roles they accept, an abhorrence of make-up other than when a camera is whirling, a predilection for wearing clothes that border on the tatty, and the use of a sharp, abrasive tongue echoing a non-nonsense personality.

As with the star of *Women in Love* and *A Touch of Class*, there are few grey areas in the personality profile of Miss Scacchi. Either you like her or you don't, but the vibrations she sends out guarantee she will never be disregarded.

She was born in Milan and lived there until she was six. When her parents separated she was raised in Sussex and at 15 left with her mother, a former Bluebell Girl, and her university professor stepfather for Australia, returning two years later to study at the Bristol Old Vic.

"When I was about eight years old I happened to mention to my father that I wanted to be an actress and he gave me a wallop in the face," she reflects, still wincing at the memory.

"He said, 'Whatever you do, don't be an actress'. He is very cosmopolitan, my father, but when it comes to me, he is very medieval, very Italian."

Our rendezvous is the tea lounge of a London hotel just a day before her departure for the United States. In America, chaperoned by an older brother, she will meet film and television producers and embark on a round of publicity interviews before the airing of *Camille*. As she pours tea she flits from fiery Latin outbursts to moments of genteel English secretiveness.

She talks ecstatically about Alexandre Dumas' legendary Marguerite Gautier, the poor farm girl who becomes one of the most dazzling courtesans in Paris, a role immorta-



Girl next door look: Greta in *The Ebony Tower*

lized on the screen nearly half a century earlier by Garbo. Along with Colin Firth, Ben Kingsley, Billie Whitelaw, and John Gielgud, she completed the filming in and around Paris earlier this year.

"It was terrific to begin with to find that anybody I mentioned *Camille* to immediately went on about Greta Garbo's 'amazing performance', the new Greta explained, lighting yet another cigarette.

"Actually, I'd never seen Garbo's version until two days ago, when it was screened for me, and ever since then I've been in a state of shock. What she did in the film, you see, was so wonderful, bringing to the role so much more variety, so much more colour, than I think I could bring to my own interpretation."

Greta, who filmed *The Coca-Cola Kid* ("I can't stand the stuff") in Australia earlier this year, and then went straight into the television film adaptation of Graham Greene's *Dr Fischer of Geneva*, shot in Switzerland with Alan Bates and James Mason, is obsessive about the correct pronunciation of both her names.

It is "Gretta", not "Gretta", and the stumbling block - "Ska-kee", never "Scatchy".

We are suddenly joined by a tall, fair-haired young man in jeans carrying a small rucksack. That's Colin, says Greta. "Colin Firth - my Airmail in *Camille*. He's come to meet me here. We're going out tonight."

Her boyfriend? She smiles ambiguously. "No."

She is sensitive about personal relationships at the moment, explaining: "In the past three years I've not been in one place long enough to forge close friendships. The people I've been closest to are the people I've worked with for two or three months."

Then we go our separate ways and I never see them again.

"It's all very unsatisfactory. I need to organize my life in another way. My career has been going much faster than my private life, and it's no good; it's very unsettling."

"At the moment happiness to me would be to be able to see my friends and give them the attention I want to, because I feel very unfulfilled in that area."

Is there someone special? "No, my life is a disaster in that area. It doesn't seem to be working out for me. Boyfriends? God, it's a big problem for me. For years I've watched some very famous actresses going through several marriages and, in a way, I can now see why, because divorce is an occupational hazard for an actress."

When Granada TV's steamy film of John Fowles' novella, *The Ebony Tower*, is shown on the independent network - it concerns exiled English painter Olivier and two girls in a ménage à trois - attention will inevitably focus on the nude scenes of Greta and Toyah Wilcox at a picnic in the Dordogne with Olivier.

When the film was made deep in the French countryside last autumn, Toyah admitted that the prospect of the nude scenes gave her nightmares, and she vowed she would never do a nude scene again in a hurry.

But Greta says crisply: "I don't see filmed nudity as something scary. Everybody is so different about these things and an awful lot of it is to do with upbringing. People have complexes. But I find that nudity as a concept is not something I am afraid of."

"I don't find it obscene. I don't see why I should be ashamed about letting people see me with my clothes off, because we're all the same underneath. We all have the same bodies."

She gives a wry little laugh, which does not go unnoticed among other hotel guests close by. "I think," she says, "nudity is always easier if there are two of you..."

As for her appearance on film and the face she sees in a mirror, she laments: "Oh God, I see bags under my eyes, which is something I've inherited from my father. It's a problem when you're filming."

"Half-way through the production there is always a day when there is a lot of tension. The lighting cameraman is having a bit of difficulty with what he sees staring at him through the viewfinder, some problems, and suddenly a messenger comes across and says, 'You really should go to bed earlier'."

"And my feet - they're very big and very wide and not at all the same



Star image: Greta as Marguerite in *Camille*

shape as other people's feet. Consequently, I dress like a ragamuffin not because I choose to, not because I find it a particularly endearing image, but because when I go out to buy myself a dress, something elegant, the dress goes out of fashion before I can find shoes to go with it.

"It's the same problem when I'm acting. I wear tennis shoes the whole time, or else go around in my bare feet. When I do have to be squeezed into shoes for an acting role, there's a pain I feel continually."

She answers a Tannoy call and on her return exclaims: "One thing about this career, people always know where you are. This summer I decided I really needed a holiday. I really needed to go back to Italy, which I was missing a lot and because my Italian was deteriorating badly."

"So I decided to go to one of the most secluded spots. I could find, miles from any airport, and where trains to the airport aren't direct."

"Twice in one month I got tracked down through the grocer down the street. Twice in one month I had to

come back to London for a costume-fitting. You just can't get away."

Thus the price of fame for an actress who, since leaving drama school less than four years ago, has played only leading roles in everything with which she has been associated - including an episode of *Bergerac*.

So far she has resisted the enticements of the National Theatre and the Royal Shakespeare Company and the cheque books of Hollywood producers: "All I've ever wanted to do is work that inspires me, and nothing that I've been offered from America has ever inspired me."

But maybe, on her present visit to the United States, all that is about to change?

"I must get closer to myself and discover who I am. I'm not happy just to be an empty shell which I fill with a character that I am acting at a certain time. I want to be myself."

"If I can't achieve that, then I'll have to seriously consider doing another job. But I'm willing to give it a chance."

Selecting students by fairest means

From the Rector, Lord Crowther-Hunt, Exeter College, Oxford.

As chairman of the Management Committee of the Oxford Colleges Admissions Office I should like to correct a major error of fact in Amanda Craig's article on Oxbridge admissions (November 20).

It is not true that under our new admissions system, which starts in 1985 (for entry in 1986 and later), that Oxford "is taking only candidates in the fourth term of the sixth form". We shall continue to welcome post-A level as well as pre-A level candidates. The main change here will be that the traditional written entrance examination will be restricted to pre-A level candidates only. This is to avoid any suspicion that unfair advantage in this form of examination may be gained by post-A level candidates who stay on for a seventh term.

Nor do we believe that by restricting this form of examination to pre-A level candidates it will "throw much more emphasis on the interview, as candidates are less prepared for the sort of questions posed by the entrance examination". The subject matter covered in the different papers in this examination is being revised by subject committees (which includes practising schoolteachers) to ensure that papers are appropriate for those in the fourth term of the sixth form.

Post-A level candidates will in future have to seek entry by a different method (Mode N). This consists of an extended interview - but it will be supplemented by knowledge of

TALKBACK

the candidate's A level results and a report from the school. It may be still further supplemented by a specimen of the candidate's written work and by a written test.

Pre-A level candidates may also seek entry by Mode N if they prefer to do so. Successful pre-A level applicants by this mode will then receive a conditional offer based on realistic A level grades.

In short - the aim of the new system is to enable colleges to select the most able undergraduates in the fairest possible way irrespective of school, sex or parental background.

From Dr Mary Beard and Dr Susan Owens, Newnham College, Cambridge.

In a few weeks' time we shall be interviewing those interviewing candidates for admission to Newnham College, Cambridge. May we reassure our applicants that they will encounter few of the stereotypes so archly classified by Amanda Craig.

Our object is always to allow interviewees to show themselves to be the best advantage in the relatively short time available - an aim which would be entirely frustrated by the intimidatory tactics described in Ms Craig's article. We will not conduct an inquisition, nor attempt to display our own artfulness by revealing the candidates' ignorance, nor give preferential treatment to the daughters of old members.

Amanda Craig presents a *Brideshead* image of Oxbridge, entirely populated by eccentric (male) dons. This is tendentious and in our view misleading.

and their children.

Additionally, our counsellors work with young people in schools and colleges preparing them for parenthood and family life, and provide support groups for a wide range of people, ranging from parents of handicapped children, prisoners, people facing unemployment, retirement or bereavement.

From Gwynn Davis, Department of Social Administration, University of Bristol, 22 Berkeley Square, Bristol.

I am quoted by Jeannette Kupfermann (The family fights back, November 28) as saying: "We have no hard evidence about the long-term success of conciliation."

But the evidence from our recent survey of "consumers" of conciliation, carried out in Bristol and Bromley, indicates that for some families conciliation does indeed have long-term benefits in terms of enduring access arrangements and an easing of tension between parents.

Ms Kupfermann is also mistaken when she states that the Bristol Courts Family Conciliation Service is run by solicitors.

Help's at hand

From Zella West-Meads, Counsellor and spokesperson for the National Marriage Guidance Council, Herbert Gray College, Rugby.

In Jeannette Kupfermann's informative article, The Family Fights Back, about marriage and divorce, she gave the impression that there was very little help in this country for families with marriage problems.

In fact, the National Marriage Guidance Council provides a nationwide counselling service with 400 centres in which 1,700 counsellors see more than 40,000 new cases each year. In addition to that we are constantly expanding our services because at least double that number are seeking our help.

We see people who are married, single, separated or divorced with personal problems.

While our main task is to help people understand why their marriages are going wrong and help them overcome these problems, we also recognize that not all marriages are viable. In these cases we help people through their divorce, thus reducing damage to themselves

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Sweat more sweetly...

Excessive sweating, hyperhidrosis, not only ruins patients' clothing but destroys their composure as well - doctors have even heard it advanced as a reason for avoiding marriage. And the more worried a patient gets about his condition, the more he sweats.

In close communities it can cause extreme embarrassment.

Sweating is part of the body's heat control system. There are two types of sweat glands: the widely distributed eccrine glands, secreting the clear fluid which on hot days shows as beads of sweat on the forehead or trickles down the back; and the apocrine glands of the armpits and groin, producing thicker fluid which, when broken down by skin bacteria, gives each body a distinctive scent (excessive smell is known as bromhidrosis).

In this week's *Mims* magazine, Dr Andrew Pembroke, of King's College Hospital, London, reviews recent advances in the treatment of hyperhidrosis. Aluminium salts found in most anti-perspirants remain the first line of attack. A new formula of aluminium chloride in 20 per cent alcohol, marketed as Anhidrol forte or Drinolol, is reasonably effective. It should be used at night, but as it is an irritant the armpits should not be shaved or washed immediately before. It is used daily at first, but as the condition improves, twice a week will be enough.

Hands and feet are better treated by using an electrical



Teddy bears' disease is no picnic

Any teddy bears' picnic in the Australian woods this year would be a melancholy affair as an epidemic of chlamydia psittaci is wreaking havoc among koala bears. This organism usually gives rise, in birds, animals and humans to a respiratory tract infection.

In the recent outbreak the organism has reportedly been isolated from koala bears' eyes and genital tracts, which raises the possibility that the disease may have spread through activities not usually considered suitable for nursery bears' picnics.

Psittacosis, often caught by humans from domestic birds, is

more common than usually realized, but the other groups of chlamydia are more important to medicine. They cause a prevalent sexually transmitted disease, non-specific urethritis (NSU), in women more accurately described as non-specific genital infection.

The symptoms can be devastating in the long term, damaging the fallopian tubes and causing infertility. The only safe rule is that all contacts of men with NSU are treated, and doctors treating pelvic inflammatory disease assume that whatever other organisms are known to be present, chlamydia is there too.

Travelling tissue

Thousands of British women suffer from endometriosis. It is a frequently painful and can result in infertility; but it is not a well-known condition and the patient's suffering remains unappreciated.

Endometriosis is the development of the womb lining, or endometrium, in other parts of the body, usually but not always the pelvic organs. When these patches of stray uterine tissue swell with the normal monthly cycle, the bleeding at menstruation is not only painful, but all too apparent if the bladder, rectum or navel is involved.

The diagnosis of endometriosis is difficult. Its symptoms mimic so many other diseases, and it is often confused with pelvic inflammatory disease with which it sometimes co-exists, striking as it does a similar group of women.

The reason why uterine tissue

should migrate is unknown. It is suggested that menstrual blood containing endometrial cells may be passed upwards through the fallopian tubes and so spill into the pelvic cavity. In other cases it is thought that the cells are carried in the lymphatic or blood system, explaining why distant deposits are found in the lungs and kidneys. Some pathologists suggest an embryological cause. Primitive embryonic cells persist, but only differentiate under some unknown influence in early adult life.

During pregnancy the disease regresses. It therefore seemed a logical treatment to prescribe hormones, like oestrogen and progesterone, similar to those in the contraceptive pill, which produces a pseudo-pregnancy. Doctors soon found that oestrogen was unnecessary and better results were obtained with progesterone alone. Results are good, but side effects are common and future pregnancy unlikely.

More recently other preparations, Danazol (taken by mouth) and Buserelin (a nasal spray hormone mixture) have been used. Danazol is a steroid with androgenic features: it is anti-progesterone, anti-oestrogen. The patient soon feels better, and although there are tiresome side effects they are not usually serious. After a year or so the disease often regresses, and pregnancy - in up to 50 per cent of the cases when endometriosis has been responsible for infertility - becomes possible.

In older women, or in very resistant patients, surgery for removal of the ovaries may be necessary, but this treatment inducing a sudden early menopause, brings with it its own problems.

Dr Thomas Stuttiaford

The picture gallery good food guide



Because it is no longer possible to analyse the actual food of an earlier age, he says we should study pictures and assess the differences in diet which have occurred over the past 150 years.

Although painters had a public relations duty to perform for their patrons, pictures do give an accurate idea of the quality of the diet - even if not the quantity. Professor Crawford has noticed

that until the second half of the 19th century food was mainly derived from the wild. In his opinion this is eminently suitable for the human race, which is only 150 generations away from being a variety of wild animal itself.

Professor Crawford contrasts the lean meat of game, wild boar, fish, swan and primitively raised poultry and farmstock in the pictures with the 25 per cent fat of the Grade IV carcasses he saw hanging in the Smithfield Show this week. Not only was there less fat in the meat, but when eaten it was accompanied by large helpings of fruit, including exotic fruits, and nuts, but with very few berries. It was then washed down with wine, which in small quantities has a beneficial effect on fat metabolism.



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THE FUTURE FOR COAL

As the coal strike edges slowly and painfully towards its inevitable collapse, Mr Ian MacGregor, the Coal Board chairman, has provided a useful reminder that Britain's coal industry will now require a more thoroughgoing reconstruction than seemed likely when the strike began if it is to win the long-term viability, realism and management reforms that Mr MacGregor was originally appointed to achieve. These more drastic changes should be planned if not fully set in motion during the long, agonizing but seemingly unavoidable process of attrition in which the dispute is now stuck.

There seems to have been an informal embargo on discussion of these contentious issues at the Coal Board, at the Energy Department and among ministers generally. It was thankfully broken by questions from members of the audience after an address by Mr MacGregor on wealth-creation in the ironic setting of a City church. Mr MacGregor confessed that he was personally in favour of giving mines to the miners in cases where their future was in dispute, although union attitudes presently rule this out. More significantly, he backed privatisation as having a part to play in the industry's future and pointed out that legislation would be required to achieve this.

Long before the strike, the reports on the industry that led to Mr MacGregor's appointment made it clear that state monopoly had failed as a framework for the industry. That should not have come as a surprise to a Cabinet convinced of the inherent drawbacks of monolithic state corporations. It was equally clear that worker ownership should play an important role in the industry's future, given the special conditions and history of British coal mining.

The course of the strike, the damage that continues to build up each day it is prolonged, add

powerfully to those arguments. The failure of a monolithic National Coal Board, underwritten by the taxpayer, to provide security of supply has turned away many potential industrial customers and persuaded others to turn to imports as an alternative. Moreover, the deep divisions opened up between different groups of miners, and particularly between different areas, will be hard to heal within the present structure. They can more easily be resolved in the context of more widespread changes and alternative forms of employment and ownership.

The Government's and the Coal Board's most pressing priority is still to end the strike as quickly as they possibly can given the continuing distaste of the leadership of the National Union of Mineworkers for a ballot among NUM members or any compromise agreement for a general return to work. Any false optimism that the strike might be over by the end of the year can now be buried. The drift back to work has predictably slowed to a trickle following the expiry of the deadline for the payment of back allowances before Christmas. In the immediate future the approach of Christmas can be expected rather to cement the solidarity of strikers in close-knit mining communities.

The continuing legal squeeze on the NUM, brought by miners rather than the Coal Board or Whitehall, is having a gradual effect on opinion among union officials, most of whom at least in private find the tide of violence as repulsive as the public does. The voting in the recent executive meeting and the ensuing special delegate conference was evidence of that. The Coal Board's tactics for the New Year must seek to reinforce that gradual shift of opinion.

If a majority remain on strike

any longer, it will no longer be feasible to maintain the Coal Board's Government-financed commitment to eschew compulsory redundancies. The loss of coal faces, equipment and long-term markets during the course of the strike mean that many more jobs will be lost, probably more than can be accommodated by moving miners. If that wholly correct principle has to be temporarily set aside, it should be those who refuse to make themselves available for work beyond a certain date who lose the benefit.

If the strike is to dribble on for some time, it also follows that, just as the Government should start working hard on plans for long-term re-structuring, so the Coal Board should set in train the review of its closure programme and possibly even the review of individual pits promised in its definitive agreement with the pit deputies' union. That agreement requires a longer and more cumbersome process for the review of individual closures and the Coal Board will probably need to do some homework of its own in view of the criticisms of well-informed accountants.

Once the strike is effectively over, the industry will have a breathing space of about two years while pits and human relations are repaired, production builds up and coal stocks are rebuilt. That is not much time. Thereafter, the coal industry is likely to face harsher trading conditions than those assumed in Mr MacGregor's initial closure plans. By the end of those two years, the industry will expect the Coal Board to be well on the way to implementing the five-year plan called for in its agreement with the pit deputies. The public will expect the Government to have started to implement a plan for the fundamental restructuring of the coal industry.

EAST MEETS WEST IN DISASTER

The disaster at Bhopal is a hideous parody of the marriage of western technology with eastern poverty. A chemical factory of modern design to good standard was put down eight years ago just outside a city of half a million inhabitants in the state of Madhya Pradesh. It is owned by an Indian subsidiary of Union Carbide, of the United States, and it is staffed wholly by Indians. Its product, material for pesticides, is of direct benefit to the rural economy of India. There quickly clustered up against the perimeter of the plant an unofficial settlement of the poor and ignorant, eager for work or pickings.

On Sunday night last the process of production went calamitously wrong. A cloud of poisonous vapour drifted towards the city. Those who were able fled in total dismay and bewilderment, some, it is reported, under the pathetic delusion that the plant was for the making of medicine. The very old and very young, unable to flee, were gassed and perished with many others. Two thousand are estimated to have died, many thousands more are likely to be disabled. The plant by irrevocable order is closed.

There are three levels of precaution to be taken in relation to environmentally

hazardous manufacturing processes. The explosion here at Bhopal ten years ago hammered home the lesson. The first is to give the correct priority to safety in design, siting, installation, operating procedure and inspection. The second is to have in case of mishap either a "second chance design" for automatic correction, or some corrective procedure available to intercept an accident before it turns into a disaster. The third is to have the emergency services in the vicinity prepared and alerted in case of an environmental eruption.

Union Carbide has had a good record in its home country for safety and avoidance of pollution during the lifetime of the Indian plant. But it is a reasonable inference at this stage that someone's safety procedures and inspection were defective at Bhopal. As for the other two types of precaution, they failed utterly.

Public criticism in India is divided between the allegation that multinational companies engaged in hazardous manufacture adopt one standard of safety for use in industrialized countries and another in the third world, and the allegation that the Indian regulatory code is criminally lax. The two allegations are not entirely distinct.

There is some evidence, though not directly in this case, that two standards do operate. When that happens it is usually because the company chooses to take advantage of, or acquiesce in, the inferior local provisions for safety regulation and enforcement. The receiving country may lack the expertise or the resources to enforce the sort of standards that some of these technologies dictate by reason of the dangers clinging to them, the receiving country may also be too eager to attract the investment and the employment opportunity to insist on onerous safety or environmental conditions. That does not absolve the company, which knows about the dangers, from responsibility towards the community it is entering or responsibility for its own good name.

The judicial inquiry promised by the Indian authorities and the litigation that is more than likely to ensue will draw lines between those matters for which the company can be held to account and those pertaining to the public authorities. But outside the forums of the law there is plainly a joint responsibility on those who offer these hazardous technologies and those who receive them to learn and apply together the best current practices for the avoidance of danger.

INDEPENDENT, NATIONALLY AND LOCALLY

The Prosecution of Offences Bill has had a relatively good Press. The principal reform that it embodies - separating the investigation of crimes and their prosecution by transferring the latter function from the police to an independent prosecution service - is one that most people involved in the law now see as desirable. The prosecuting solicitor's departments of police forces already provide a service of generally high quality, but the underlying principle is not at root a satisfactory one. As the agency responsible for tracking down the accused and collecting the evidence, the police have a natural human motive to wish to see their efforts vindicated. For the conduct of the prosecution to be under their control creates the opening for a suspicion of bias which is better avoided.

However, one note of anxiety was raised repeatedly as the Bill rode serenely to its second reading in the House of Lords last week. A number of speakers, including several Law Lords, expressed misgivings about the decision to make the service a national rather than a local one. Decisions about whether or not to bring a case to court ought in most cases to be made in the light of local public attitudes and other circumstances. A system where most decisions were referred up to the centre would probably be both bureaucratic and insensitive. The Royal

Commission on Criminal Procedure recommended a locally based system, and the Government's spokesmen in the Lords were pressed with decorous insistence to offer assurance that their plans were free of the predicted dangers.

Yesterday's publication of details of the proposed distribution of functions between head office and local offices of the service helps to give substance to Lord Elton's protestations that no grasping claw-back of powers to the centre is intended. In some respects local freedom to decide when and when not to prosecute will actually be increased; in others the conduct of the case will be left to the local office once the decision whether to proceed has been taken by the Director of Public Prosecutions. Riot, arson, immigration offences, even in some circumstances murder will normally fall to be dealt with from start to finish at local level. There will be a discretion on both sides to report up or to call in cases outside the newly diminished list of categories to be reported up as a matter of routine.

There are two main reasons for the need, in a relatively small number of cases, for head office to put its own in. In some kinds of offence - in particular obscene publications, large, complex frauds, and murder and manslaughter where there are un-

certainies regarding *mens rea* - special skills and comparative experience are necessary if a broadly consistent charging policy is to be applied. In others, political or semi-political considerations make it desirable that the DPP should retain some control over the bringing of prosecutions likely to be intensely controversial. Nationally sensitive cases involving labour relations, or locally sensitive ones where it is important to avoid the appearance that strings are being pulled behind the scenes are examples of this second type.

Officers of the Crown may also be exposed to undue political influence, or suspicions of it, of course. As Lord Diplock pointed out last week, the district attorney system works well in the United States (a federal country). But here the record of some police authorities in the coal strike has only reinforced the arguments against an arrangement based on local accountability however attractive that may be in theory - with the Chief Prosecutor standing rather in the same relationship to local politicians as a Chief Constable does today. A national service is preferable to that, so long as its rules embody wide protection for the exercise of local judgement, and so long as DPPs can resist, using their discretion to call in cases all and sundry.

Concern on future of pensions

From the General Secretary of the Banking Insurance & Finance Union
Sir, Dr Samuel Johnson defined a pension in his dictionary as "generally understood to mean pay given to a state hireling for treason to his country".

I think - or would like to think - that we now take a more charitable and realistic view of pensions in this country. Pensions are a reward for service rendered and in a very real sense are deferred pay; working people contribute directly and indirectly to their pensions throughout their working lives.

At the moment a number of Government measures are being taken about in the field of pensions which would have the effect of negating the actual value of pension received. The most particular rumour from Government circles is that the Chancellor is proposing in his Budget next year to tax lump-sum payments received through pension schemes - either payments in their own right or as part of pension fund arrangements or amounts which are commuted under the terms of the appropriate pension fund.

It would be monstrous for any such measure to be introduced and quite unfair to those millions who have estimated the pension amounts due to them when they retire and have adjusted their standards of life according to those estimates.

It may well be that the tax revenue gathered by the Chancellor in this way would contribute a little to the lowering of the Government's public-sector borrowing requirement; but is this really what is intended?

We very much hope that the Government will not countenance any unfair and discriminatory fiscal measures against pensioners.

After all, Dr Johnson was joking - wasn't he?
Yours faithfully,
LEIF MILLS, General Secretary,
Banking, Insurance & Finance Union,
Sheffield House,
17 Hillside,
Wimbledon, SW19,
December 5.

Investment at risk

From Lord Harris of High Cross and others

Sir, On the nationalisation cases before the European Court of Human Rights your Political Editor wrote (November 23): "The Government maintains, however, that the level of compensation paid by Labour and the method of valuation were reasonable".

Sir Keith Joseph has acknowledged that the terms of compensation were "grossly unfair". Yet this Government have defended the case under the European Convention on precisely the same terms as their Labour predecessors.

A win by the UK before the European Court would signal to the international community that investment in this country is exposed to exceptional risks of expropriation by a future government acting on the precedent set by Mr Wedgwood Benn in the Aircraft and Shipbuilding Act.

Unless justice is done to investors in this case, it is difficult to see how investors in British Telecom or other denationalised enterprises can feel safe against future expropriation by opportunistic politicians.

Yours faithfully,
RALPH HARRIS,
BROOKES,
MONSON,
ORR-OWING,
House of Lords.

Licensed friendship

From Dr Bruce Fogle

Sir, Governments are not the only bodies that will continue to tiptoe around dogs and dog licences leading and lagging. On November 30, while the Government ponders where the canine vote lies, less responsible dog owners will continue to cause the rest of us to tiptoe around other articles. Where these lie is in no doubt to anyone who lives in central London.

A dog licence, administered locally, and with a ceiling of £10 a year, is a logical system. The area of exemptions, however, should be thoroughly discussed. Dogs trained by Hearing Dogs for the deaf, for example should be included with guide dogs for the blind and working sheepdogs in any mandatory exemptions.

Other exemptions for certain elderly or handicapped pet owners should also be considered.
Yours sincerely,
BRUCE FOGLE, Vice-Chairman,
Hearing Dogs for the Deaf,
22 Seymour Street, W1,
December 3.

Conditional aid

From the Executive Director of ActionAid

Sir, Few would argue with your leader "Value for money" (November 20), when it suggests that "the aid programme... should be subjected to just as much critical analysis as every other aspect of government spending." Nor would many contest that, as presently applied, the greatest proportion of foreign aid not only fails significantly to "promote the interests and prosperity of the peasant in much of the Third World" but actively works against these.

In failing to observe that a portion (admittedly a minuscule one) of overseas aid expenditure is subject to critical public analysis and does actively promote the interests of deprived peasant communities overseas, your leader may encourage those who see the aid budget as one more legitimate target in the general assault on public expenditure, and thereby reduce still further that small proportion going to help people in such need that their very lives are threatened.

Black week for Tories in Parliament

From Mr Michael Lingers

Sir, As Conservative MPs return to their constituencies this weekend, they might reflect on the damage which they, whether as ministers or as backbench MPs, have done to the reputation of the Conservative Party over the last week.

The fiasco over local government continues as Parliament bitterly contests the abolition of the GLC and the metropolitan councils. Even if the Government is to be believed, ministers are optimistic that the paltry sum of £100m will be saved.

When the country faces severe industrial and social change, business grapple with new technology and the economy strives to be more competitive on world markets, and when more than three million of our fellow citizens are out of work and the nation should be debating future patterns of employment and measures to reduce the number of jobless, what does the Government do? It introduces a measure which, at best, is of fundamental irrelevance to the real and important issues of the day.

Then the country was treated to the unedifying spectacle of a high-principled and courageous minister humbled by his own supporters. In seeking to invest more in the country's future by requiring higher financial contributions from the relatively well-to-do to the further education of their privileged offspring, Sir Keith Joseph was humiliated by backbenchers whose motives were born of frustration and tainted by hypocrisy.

Racism in schools

From the Education Officer of ILEA

Sir, Racism and how to deal with it are subjects which need to be dealt with carefully and sensitively. Roger Scruton fails on both counts in his ill-tempered article, "Punish the real school bullies" (December 4). He chose to criticize four local education authorities for various aspects of the work they were doing in dealing with racism in education. I should like to put the record straight on the two factual references made in this article to the ILEA.

The first concerns Bernard Coard, the black author, who is referred to as having been an adviser to the ILEA. Bernard Coard has never been an adviser to the authority. He did indeed write a book describing the frustrations that many black parents felt about some schools, but he did so independently of this authority.

Secondly, it is quite untrue to infer that the ILEA supports the view that "all whites are racist". The authority's definitions of racism and

If Conservative MPs cannot face vociferous minorities in their constituency associations what hopes remain for Nigel Lawson's other proposed constraints on middle-class privileges?

Taxation of lump-sum pension payments and child benefits and the restriction of mortgage interest relief to basic-rate taxpayers - all these would be future legitimate encroachments on the hidden welfare state for the middle classes. Imagine the braying fury of some Conservative MPs, coupled with the sanctimonious insouciance of those who would simply carry on spending the money, when faced with such challenges.

At the same time further cuts in the living standards of the poorer members of society provoke no such revolts of so-called principle.

Nor is the Government blameless: Nigel Lawson has promised cuts of £1.5bn for double economic and political benefit. The price is uncoordinated and non-strategic public expenditure reductions in all departments, forcing Sir Keith Joseph, for example, to set off parental contributions against scientific research and adult education within his own budget, to choose between the devil and the deep blue sea.

That was the week that was in Parliament, a black week for the Conservative Party.
Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL LINGERS,
29 Beryl Road, W6,
December 6.

how to deal with it are clearly set out in the authority's documents on racism and multi-ethnic education. There is no such reference in these documents or elsewhere that would lead any sensible reader to such a conclusion.

There is a further scholarly reference in the article to the ILEA as being engaged in "buffoonery of every kind". It is difficult to understand what is meant by this. I do not know about subscribers to the *Salisbury Review*, but readers of *The Times* surely deserve better comment and analysis than this.

The ILEA and the other authorities which are trying hard to deal with the deeply rooted problem of racism in our society are surely, at the very least, entitled to constructive criticism rather than ill-informed writing.
Yours sincerely,
WILLIAM STUBBS,
Education Officer,
Inner London Education Authority,
The County Hall, SE1,
December 6.

Power and superpower

From Miss Alison Leonard

Sir, I wonder what was the reason for your "one empire" editorial (November 26).

There are two questions to be asked in this context. Firstly, is the Soviet Union bent on spreading its unwelcome system round the world regardless of cost to itself? Secondly, is our defence against such a possibility a credible one?

On the first question: two things (apart from the inevitable feeling of preference for our own freedoms) strike the visitor to the Soviet Union. One is the vividness of the memory of the devastation caused by World War II with its twenty million Soviet dead. The other is the awareness amongst ordinary people of the absolute finality of the

destruction which would be caused by nuclear war.

On the second question, it would be as well to ask what message our present system of defence gives to a potential enemy. One interpretation of our message to the Soviet Union is this: "We will press the end-of-the-world button if you invade". This is not a credible defence.

It is time for us to return to a genuine, small, believable deterrent. This would mean, as a first step, the cancellation of Trident. It may be that the reason for your editorial at this point was the increasing strength on all sides of the House, of calls for this to be done.

Yours faithfully,
ALISON LEONARD,
6 Totland Grove,
Chester,
November 26.

Christian feminism

From the Reverend Dr William Oddie

Sir, In her letter of November 22 Rosemary Ruether claims that "by taking a statement out of context and without giving its source" I have uttered against her a "calumnious assertion". My accusation made in a *Times* article (October 15), was that Dr Ruether has shown in her writings a "deep hatred and disgust for the Christian tradition". Dr Ruether's claim that "needless to say this is not my view of the Christian tradition at all" is, frankly, a disingenuous one.

The statement I quoted appears in her book *Sexism and God-talk*, in the general context of a description of how, in Ruether's view, the "subjugation" of women in society has been achieved. After (in my opinion) misrepresenting firstly Aristotle, and then the Hebrew tradition, she goes on: "The Christian Church teaches (my italics) that birth is shameful" and that "only through the second birth of baptism, administered by the male clergy, is the filth of mother's birth remedied and the offspring of

the woman's womb made fit to be a child of God".

Woman, says Dr Ruether, "must obediently accept the effect of these holy male acts upon her body". The passage as a whole conveys contempt for what she represents as being traditional teaching much more strongly than the short passage to which I was necessarily confined in my article; and it is clear from the context that it is today's Church teachings she rejects as strongly as those of the past: so much for her claim that this passage represents "a concept of maternal sexuality... which... I would hope that most Christians today repudiate".

If space permitted, other examples of Dr Ruether's hostility towards the Judeo-Christian tradition in general, and what "the Christian Church teaches" in particular, and of how she is prepared to misrepresent them to make her point, could be given: a number of them are examined in my book *What will happen to God?*, the publication of which was the occasion of my recent article.

Yours sincerely,
WILLIAM ODDIE,
Pusey House,
Oxford,
November 24.

Forging UK links with Italy

From the Director-General of the British Council

Sir, Captain William Cooper (December 5) regrets the limited stock of engineering books in our Rome library. The council's library policy in Italy, as elsewhere, seeks to fill gaps - despite a heavily reduced budget - in the availability of British books in overseas countries and a number of Italian libraries have collections of British engineering publications.

We share Captain Cooper's conviction that engineering is an important aspect of British culture and he will be glad to know that a council exhibition of 300 British electrical and electronic publications is now touring Italy.

Books are only one way in which the council in Italy promotes Britain's scientific and engineering achievements. Of the traffic of people between Britain and Italy assisted by the council about a third is in scientific and technological subjects.

Our Science Officer in Rome concentrates on developing research links between institutions in Britain and their Italian counterparts: her present priority areas are aeronautical, electronic and electrical engineering.

To give but one example of many, she is currently engaged in a joint research project on multivariable control techniques applied to steering and stabilisation of surface vessels, linking the Royal Naval Engineering College, Manadon and the Istituto per l'Automazione Navale, Genoa.

Globally, over a quarter of our main budget is devoted to science and technology whilst less than 15 per cent is spent on the arts. Important though they are.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN BURGH, Director-General,
The British Council,
11 Spring Gardens, SW1,
December 6.

Survey in peril

From Dr John Phisick

Sir, Your leader today (December 3) deals with the problem of the GLC's functions to be devolved to new or existing bodies. There are, however, some bodies which appear to have been omitted from the Bill altogether. One such is the publication of the *Survey of London*, which, though promised a future in the White Paper, is not mentioned in the Bill.

This series, begun over 80 years ago by a voluntary committee under the architect and conservationist, C. R. Ashbee, and from the beginning supported by the LCC, is to use your own headline (January 4), "much too good to discard". Any threat to it must be a matter of great concern to all those interested in the history of London and the conservation of its wealth of historic buildings.

It is also worrying that undertakings made by the Government at earlier stages of the legislation are apparently not being honoured.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN PHISICK,
49 New Road,
Meopham,
Kent,
December 3.

Keeping watch

From Mr N. K. Whitley

Sir, I am disturbed by your leader today (November 29) headed "We have been warned".

You distinguish three categories of communists, the third of which, you say, "actually conceal their inner convictions by inhabiting other groups as communists." I understand and can share your concern while you define these groups as communists on a political basis, "Tory or Alliance parties", since these have declared ideological premises opposed to those of the communists. I must protest, however, when you continue by including the media, the universities, teacher-training colleges etc.

As far as I am aware there is no legal ban on communism in this country. As yet (I hope) employment in this land does not depend upon political, philosophical, ideological or religious conviction.

To suggest that a journalist, lecturer or by profession may not also be a communist and by inference Christian, Labour Party activist, Jew, atheist etc by conviction is to bring Orwell's 1984 a dangerous step closer to reality.
Yours faithfully,
N. K. WHITLEY,
24 Purley Bury Avenue,
Purley,
Surrey,
November 29.

Student grants

From Professor Tom Preston

Sir, Over a third of a century ago I was at Cambridge on a FETS (Further Education and Training Scheme) grant of £187 p.a. I had volunteered for war service, aged 17½, and became 21 in uniform.

My father allowed me £15 p.a. out of his professional stipend of £1,000 p.a. The Secretary of State for Scotland discovered this and demanded a refund of £45. I objected strenuously on the grounds it was a tax-paid gift to an adult. I also offered to call at his offices and punch him on the nose for his impudence.

I was invited to do so and met an enormous man who had been an Oxford Boxing Blue, who gave me a homely but called both matters off. History seems to repeat itself.
Yours faithfully,
T. A. PRESTON,
20 Russell Drive,
Christchurch,
Dorset.

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BOX OFFICES

LONDON THEATRE

Absolutely nothing is beyond the people who run the Fringe



Fringe theatre in London is not only intimate and very cheap; it is also, as regular readers of *The Times* arts page will know, frequently very rewarding. In contrast to New York, London recognizes no distinction between the equivalents of "off-Broadway" and "off-off-Broadway". The Royal Court and the Hampstead, while not in the West End, are handy "off-Broadway" theatres, and while most pub theatres belong in the "off-off" category there are some (like the Bush and the King's Head) distinguished enough to belie the term's connotations.

By their fruits ye shall know them, it is difficult enough to know in advance whether a 'good' venue has a duff show in or whether a little piece of genius is showing at a little remote pub. Nor, for good reasons, do West End transfers naturally follow for quality productions. But a number of theatres demand regular checking out - and, such as the politics and economics of the game, the top league is in a constant state of flux.

First, the "off-Broadway" section. Foremost is the Lyric Hammersmith, a unique example of a Victorian theatre's reconstruction in a modern theatre with modern facilities. The Lyric's survival through the main part of the twentieth century, since the original

building was opened in 1888, owes a great deal to one palmy period under one genius, Sir Nigel Playfair, and his productions in the 1920s and 1930s gave it a particular connexion with comedies of the Georgian (his *Beggar's Opera* fixed that work in the ranks of the classics) and Restoration periods.

The building itself, a rare and exquisite instance of a small auditorium by the hand of the great theatre architect Frank Matcham, is particularly well suited for such plays and has recalled that association with recent William Gaskill productions of *Shakespeare's Conqueror* and *The Reluctant*, as well as a Toby Robertson *Beggar's Opera*.

When the King Street Mall shopping precinct was projected in the late 1960s, the Lyric stood right in the path of it, was in poor structural condition and had long been in the middle of a losing streak. I remember said days sitting in the public gallery during the inquiry to decide its fate, with Victor Mishcon, QC (now Lord Mishcon) pleading courteously on its behalf and the suggestion that the Matcham plasterwork be detached for use in a new theatre being made by the prosecution counsel in the confidence that any new proscenium house was a pretty risible idea.

As it turned out, the pendulum swung back and the plasterwork was replaced, with the subtlest modifications, to give today's audiences the



The audience let their beer go flat at the King's Head, Islington, while the actor sparkles

charming surprise of finding a 500-seat Victorian gem embedded two floors up in a modern block. The block, now open for five years, incorporates not only air-conditioning and (usually excessive) heating but a restaurant with a big terrace for open-air drinking and, more important, an adaptable and very attractive studio theatre with an excellent success record.

But it is worth stressing that, despite the Lyric's favoured position in the heart of a shopping street, you only need to nip into local pubs in the interval 'clutching your programme to be met by interested inquiries from local residents who have still never set foot inside. Here, as everywhere, theatre's cause still needs pleading.

Another astonishing survival, this time owing its kudos to the great regime of Joan Littlewood in the 1950s and 1960s, is the Theatre Royal, Stratford, E15. It has spent many years trying to convince Londoners that, being on the Central Line as well as the main British Rail line east from Liverpool Street, it is not at the ends of the earth. But when I first visited it 20 years ago it certainly seemed like a Coronation Street of two-up-two-downers with a faint glimmer at the far end took you from the station to the gaily decorated little building, with a Victorian-style hall leading through to a bar where (it is said) the Krays regularly held court on Joan's first nights, and a staircase decorated with now-vanished Bill Tidy car-

toons ascending into a dinky little auditorium. It was tatty then and still needs a lot of money, but the refurbishment appeal will receive a new impetus this month with its centenary celebrations. And, after a predominantly classic repertoire policy by the Stage Sixty company failed to draw central sophisticates out to Stratford, it has done better by fostering Stratford links, as anyone who has enjoyed a Christmas pantomime among the locals or seen the West Indian Trevor Rhone's *Two Can Play in a joyfully packed house* can testify.

The King's Head's presiding genius, Dan Crawford, is happily still with us and this Victorian pub opposite Islington Church in Upper Street remains a rare London example of dinner-theatre, not with that

term's bland American associations but as a great experimental venue. You sit at long checkered tables, whether you come for the pre-show dinner (recently improved again) or not and the atmosphere, oddly enough, is just as conducive to serious as to light entertainment. I well remember dropping my eyes from the stage during a pause in the mesmerising first act of *Kennedy's Children* and discovering an almost cold cup of coffee in front of me, tactfully refilled by a waitress and unnoticed by me for the previous half-hour.

The Theatre Upstairs and Riverside Studios are comparative newcomers. The Theatre Upstairs still seems so, but it is 15 years since the room on top of the Royal Court - which drew the crowds as Clement Freud's nightclub in the 1960s,

was converted into an experimental studio that radically changed the scale of the English Stage Company's operations and gave an extended run to plays that might otherwise only have been for a Sunday-night showing in the little main theatre below. By contrast, Riverside's auditoria (formerly BBC studios) are vast and hangar-like, tending to swallow up small-scale shows but used to marvellous effect by Peter Gill in early classic productions like *The Cherry Orchard* and *The Changeling*.

Being its romantic name, Riverside squats between council blocks and a waste river-bank site, just at the point where you wonder if you're going anywhere; but the food in the self-service canteen is good, the seats are comfortable.

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Wondrous discoveries

From previous pages
But facilities are hampered by historical fact: so many theatres date from an age when large hairs were unnecessary because they were only used by men. You cannot do much about an architectural division into three balconies, but this does seem an area where the consequences of social change have not been properly faced.

The wind of change is also blowing through the box-office. Computers have not yet advanced far beyond the four Wyndham theatres and the Theatre of Comedy group, but only the other day a major booking agency, Edwards and Edwards, unveiled their Prestel

system and the entire old procedure of screaming agents' phones, box-office queues and telephone bookings has been dealt a further blow by the spread of phone purchases on credit card.

The staff, too, are getting younger. Having spent a few years doing it myself, I may be biased, but I was (and am) impressed by the way most clerks' tempers stand the strain and I have certainly never worked with more pleasant people. As receptionists and salesmen (not to mention accountants, telephonists, information bureaux and complaints departments) their manner is important and the bad old habit

of giving them so little financial incentive will have to end one day.

Still, some nice traditions adapt to all changes. At Her Majesty's we had a cat that used to sleep on next year's booking plans in the warmth of the halogen lighting; now I see that the boys at Sadler's Wells, which is computerized, have one that basks just as comfortably on top of a terminal. At the Shaftesbury, Ray Cooney has already introduced a 20 per cent bonus scheme for all staff.

Since the public is usually going to the theatre for pleasure, a fine combination of postman's and commercial sense will be necessary to carry West End theatres over into the 21st century. Examples like the Lloyd Webber management at the Palace, with its immense financial resources admittedly, raises hopes. These old buildings do eat up money, but they also have superb potential as pleasure domes.

Alongside the Palace's expanding programme of lunch-time entertainment is the multi-million-pound restoration project that is currently investigating Britain's few remaining terracotta firms for refurbishing its much-eroded exterior.

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4	Smith & Nephew			4	Smith & Nephew	
5	PRG			5	PRG	
6	Westland			6	Westland	
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8	Six Hundred			8	Six Hundred	
9	Spencer Clark			9	Spencer Clark	
10	Siemens			10	Siemens	
11	London (F&H)			11	London (F&H)	
12	BLINDING & ROADS			12	BLINDING & ROADS	
13	Glendon (M)			13	Glendon (M)	
14	Mark (A)			14	Mark (A)	
15	Shurt (J)			15	Shurt (J)	
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FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

MPs' doubts cast a shadow over tax cuts

The Treasury and Civil Service Committee, under the chairmanship of Mr Terence Higgins, Financial Secretary to the Treasury in the Health Secretary, yesterday added its voice to the criticism of present methods of public spending control. Important though this is, the committee's points on the Treasury's autumn statement have more immediate interest. In particular, the £1.5 billion of tax cut or "improved fiscal adjustment" for the next Budget which the committee maintains is "predicated on a group of questionable assumptions".

The assumption that caught the committee's eye concerned the exchange rate, and its effect on oil revenues. In evidence, Sir Terence Higgins, the Government's chief economic adviser, conceded that a 10 per cent fall in the sterling oil price would eliminate the £1.5 billion fiscal adjustment. When oil prices remain under pressure and, at the same time, a downward correction in the dollar is expected, the committee is right to question the Treasury view that a sterling oil price of nearly £24 barrel will persist through 1985-86.

This figure is calculated from an exchange rate of \$1.20 and a North Sea oil price of \$28.65 a barrel, the situation prevailing when the Treasury put the finishing touches to the autumn statement. In theory sterling would have to rise to a little over \$1.30 given a stable dollar price for oil, before the scope for tax cuts disappeared.

The committee is sceptical about next year's public spending planning total of £132 billion and, in particular, assumptions that the public sector pay bill will rise by only 3 per cent and that local authority current spending will be cut by 2 per cent in real terms.

This year's revised planning total of nearly £128 billion may also be exceeded, the committee says, noting that "Estimating errors have occurred during years when inflation has been even less than initially expected - a situation that will not necessarily continue to prevail."

Well-made though these points are, the committee's report, the first of the 1984-85 session, is something of a disappointment. As the published evidence shows, the committee failed to extract much either from the Chancellor of his civil servants.

One of the autumn statement's mysteries became a little clearer yesterday. The third quarter balance of payments figures showed a £1.110 million surplus on invisibles, against the working assumption of £250 million a month. This produced a third quarter deficit, seasonally adjusted, of £542 million, and a cumulative deficit of £497 million in the first three quarters of 1984.

Bad though this is, the EEC rebate, received in October, and the normal upward revision of balance of payments statistics, should allow the Treasury's zero current account estimate for 1984 to be met.

Predatory GEC still cash-rich

GEC picked up a further five million of its own shares yesterday and told the market it was open for more. By the close last night Britain's largest manufacturing company had bought in 35.1 million at a cost of £80 million it was hard going. The brokers de Zoete & Bevan had been in the market for 15 hours, offering to buy the shares at a fraction over 288p each.

Shareholders who sold for cash had been given, and had taken the opportunity to lighten their load of a hitherto-unrivalled stock, and perhaps increase a disappointing allocation of British Tele-

com shares. Holders who looked disdainfully at the price on offer and refused to sell should benefit from the expected increased earnings this year and the resulting rise in earnings per share.

As with all new games, it takes time for players to become familiar with the rules. GEC is pleased with the response; it has not expected to draw out anything like the 40 million shares it was willing to buy. Moreover it is rare for a board of directors to give money back to shareholders. The logic is clear enough: if GEC could not think of what to buy with its cash mountain then the shareholders individually should be given a chance to find a home for it. Most companies prefer to ignore it, believing always that the board knows best.

GEC still has £1.6 billion on call and the key, as always, is the price. British Aerospace is a good example. It is almost tailor-made for GEC but with Aerospace shares at 355p, Lord Weinstock remains uncommitted. Notwithstanding the greater wariness of GEC, it is unlikely to sit on its hands for ever.

Guarantees wanted for warship yards

The course of privatization rarely runs smoothly, especially when more than one Whitehall department has an interest in the outcome. So it is with the Government's plans for privatizing warship yards. The Ministry of Defence and the Treasury are keenly involved in the sale of the yards, which is the responsibility of British Shipbuilders and its sponsor department, Trade and Industry.

Since the summer, Lazard has been busy drawing up detailed sale documents for each of the seven main yards. Offers are already in for one of the minnows, the patrol boat yard of Brooke Marine at Lowestoft. However, the review of defence and navy spending being undertaken for Mr Michael Heseltine, the Defence Secretary, is casting a shadow over sale preparations for the rest.

In particular, reports that the future of the Navy's new Type 23 frigate programme maybe in question has caused ripples of unease among potential bidders. All the warship yards are heavily dependent on the MoD as the predominant customer, but the frigate programme is critical to the future of Yarrow, Swan Hunter, Cammell Laird and Vosper Thornycroft.

With each Type 23 frigate worth £100 million or so (the exact cost is a matter of contention), there was already concern that overcapacity in frigate building meant that not every yard could be kept busy with the rate of ordering that the Navy was thought to have in mind. If there are to be even fewer orders - none at all according to the wildest rumours - it would be very serious.

Vosper Thornycroft, Swan Hunter and Cammell Laird are still waiting to hear where the long delayed orders for two Type 22 frigates, worth more than £140 million each, are destined to go. A decision is promised by Christmas, after what has been almost a pantomime of protracted Whitehall indecision.

Rumours about the Type 23 programme are reliably said to be without foundation. Lazard appears to be confident that this is so and hopes to put out packages of financial information about Yarrow, Hall Russell and the Vickers nuclear submarine yard at Barrow by Christmas.

There are none the less genuine jitters among bidders, who will want some sort of assurance - formal or otherwise - about likely future ordering levels.

Share flotation 'to pay for EuroRoute Channel link'

By Jeremy Warner

The £4,400 million plan to build a combined bridge and tunnel cross Channel link would ultimately be financed by a huge "British Telecom-like" public share flotation. Sir Nigel Brookes, chairman of Trafalgar House said yesterday.

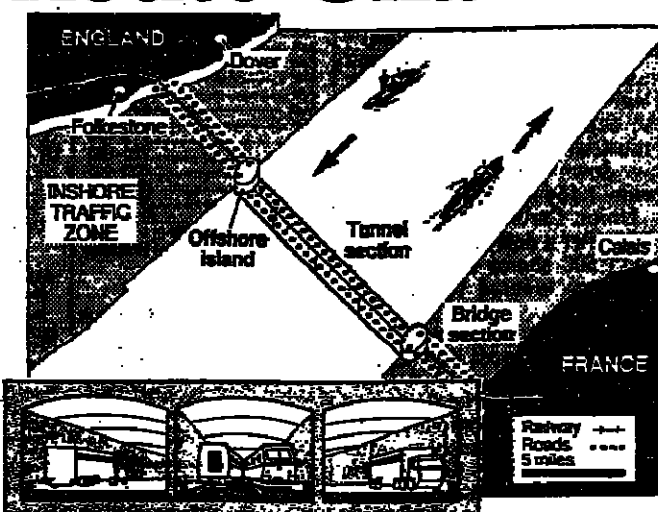
Sir Nigel was speaking as he took over from Mr Ian MacGregor as British chairman of EuroRoute, the Anglo-French consortium responsible for the proposal, which is one of six schemes competing for fixed cross Channel link project.

And he said he believed the Government would be in a position to decide which of the six schemes to adopt by March.

Sir Nigel said he believed the idea of the link was now closer to realization than ever before following the joint statement made by Mrs Thatcher and President Mitterrand of France at the Paris Summit.

The statement said that such a link would be "technically feasible and financially viable" and that the time had come to take the next step.

Britain and France have set up a joint working party to fix the



EuroRoute's £4.4 billion scheme, combining bridges and tunnel

conditions under which such a link would be constructed and operated. It is due to report in February.

Sir Nigel said to be believed the political will was in place to carry the idea through.

A spokesman for the Department of Transport described his March time scale as "a little optimistic". The department said that the brief of the

He envisaged a major public share issue in Britain and France "of the order of British Telecom but phased over the life of the project," as the most likely form of finance. Sir Nigel said he was satisfied that the medium-term banking finance for the scheme could be raised without Government guarantee.

Trafalgar House has a large share stake in the consortium and stands to gain much new construction work for its fabrication yards if the EuroRoute scheme is adopted.

The EuroRoute is one of the most expensive of the rival Channel link proposals. A report published in May by five British and French banks dismissed the proposal as unviable but Sir Nigel claimed yesterday that the report's findings had been based on "obsolete data."

"I do not think that the twin bore rail only tunnel solution will bear serious scrutiny," Sir Nigel said. He thought that the EuroRoute scheme, although more expensive, had significant advantages in creating substantial job opportunities in traditional industries away from the Channel sites.

Ferry group to sell St Andrews hotel stake

By Cliff Feitham

The cross Channel ferry operator, European Ferries, is close to a further deal aimed at streamlining its activities and raising about £7 million or more by selling its 50 per cent interest in the prestigious Old Course Golf and Country Club next to the Old Course at St Andrews, Fife.

The involvement has been a costly experiment for the group, which embarked on the project two and a half years ago during the expansionist reign of its late chairman, Mr Keith Wicken-

den, the most likely buyer of the stake is the group's partner in the hotel, Mr Frank Sheridan, a businessman who ran the Classic cinema chain before selling out for £6.8 million during the mid seventies to Mr Laurie Marshall's Intercontinental group.

The Old Course Club was bought from British Transport Hotels as part of its privatization for £135 million, but an estimated £10 million has been spent on extensive improvements to create a 150-room complex up to five-star standard and marketed around the world.

Mr Roger Braidwood, the finance director of European Ferries, added that Mr Sheridan "is in a not inappropriate position to offer us a deal." The hotel stands in the group's books at between £6 million and £7 million and Mr Braidwood said: "we will not sell at a loss."

Mr Sheridan said: "I suppose I am the logical person to buy their stake." He had sufficient financial resources to reach a deal which is likely before the end of this year.

European Ferries has two other hotels, at Larne in Northern Ireland, and at Dover, but these tie in more closely with its ferry business and are unlikely to be sold.

The group has been busy slimming back to its mainstream businesses, which have involved the sale of the Singer and Friedlander merchant bank for £52 million.

Dunlop investors to lobby Pegi board

By Ian Griffiths

Representatives of the Dunlop Shareholders' Association will meet directors of the Malaysian Pegi Corporation next week. Pegi has a 26 per cent stake in the ailing tyre and industrial products group.

The meeting is part of a lobbying campaign designed to keep the dilution of equity investment to a minimum when details of the long-awaited capital reconstruction, expected shortly, are announced.

The association presented its own plans for the shape of the reconstruction to Pegi's financial advisers in London yesterday. Its proposals call for a withdrawal from tyre activities through the sale of the US and South African operations and estimated that about £240

BP alters Wyth Farm plan

By Jonathan Davis, Business Correspondent

Oil companies led by BP have decided to change their plans for developing the Wyth Farm oilfield in Dorset after running into fierce opposition to their original scheme which included drilling on the Studland peninsula, a beauty spot and nature reserve.

The plans to drill on the peninsula will be shelved for four years and may be scrapped eventually, company officials said yesterday.

Mr Michael O'Sullivan, manager of the Wyth Farm development, said: "There's no doubt that people have been very steamed up about the Studland proposals."

The BP consortium is planning instead to drill wells from other sites in and around Poole Harbour.

Last week it applied for planning permission to drill its first appraised wells on Furzey Island, the 31-acre estate which it bought this year from Mr Algy Cluff, the oil entrepreneur and magazine proprietor. Mr O'Sullivan said that BP now hoped to drill as many as 25 wells into the Wyth Farm reservoirs.

GUS tops £100m

Great Universal Stores, the Burberrys, Home Churn and Times Furnishing retail group, yesterday reported record half-year profits of £105.1 million, an increase of nearly £13 million. Sales were £53 million up at just over £1 billion.

The net effect has been push earnings per stock unit up from

21.77p to 24.32p, paving the way for an interim dividend of 6.25p against 5.5p before.

The main engines of growth were mail order, Burberrys and the financial division, which includes Global Holidays. Furniture was static in a difficult market.

Profits at Bass, Britain's largest brewer, for the 53 weeks to September 30, rose from £175 million to £218.4 million, and the dividend goes up from 11.36p to 12.90p.

Short Bros sale mooted

The Government has decided that the Belfast aerospace company, Short Brothers and Harland, is suitable for privatization, and is to seek advice on its disposal.

The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Mr Douglas Hurd said in a Commons written reply that specialists advice would be sought about the feasibility, costs and benefits of disposal, including how best to secure employee involvement. "In deciding eventually whether to proceed to sell, the Government will in particular wish to give full weight to the importance of the company in the Northern Ireland economy," he said.

The company, which employs 65,000, is working on the Tucano trainer aircraft with a Brazilian company, and is involved in work for the European Airbus A310-200.

Hanson gains

Hanson Trust reported pretax profits up from £91.1 million to £169.1 million for the year to the end of September. The final dividend is up from 3p to 3.25p, making a total of 5p against 3.33p last time and a one-for-two capitalization issue is proposed.

Tempus, page 21

Ferranti ahead

Ferranti, the electronics group, has reported a 25 per cent increase in pretax profits up from £14.8 million to £18.5 million for the half year to September 30.

Tempus, page 21

BOC record

Pretax profits at the BOC Group, the gases, health care and carbon products concern, improved by 44 per cent to a record £138 million in the year to September 30.

Tempus, page 21

Bass profit up

Profits at Bass, Britain's largest brewer, for the 53 weeks to September 30, rose from £175 million to £218.4 million, and the dividend goes up from 11.36p to 12.90p.

Tempus, page 21

Duty concession

The Inland Revenue has ruled that Harvard Securities, the licensed dealers, is a qualified dealer and need pay only 50p stamp duty when it buys USM shares as a principle - the same as stockjobbers.

Matthey set for £25m capital aid

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Johnson Matthey plc crossed the first hurdle on the long road back to financial health yesterday as shareholders at an extraordinary meeting voted overwhelmingly to approve a £25 million capital injection and an increase in the group's borrowing powers.

Approval of the £25 million injection, in the form of convertible preference shares, was crucial to ensure the continued support of the industrial and precious metals refining group's bankers, who have provided a £250 million standby credit line.

Mr Neil Clarke, chairman, said the group would still need more capital and this was one of the matters being studied by the accountants, Coopers & Lybrand. He said that talks with BP, which is considering whether to bid for Johnson Matthey plc, were still continuing.

Although watered down from the initial proposals, the £25 million capital injection still favours Charter Consolidated. Its stake will increase from 27.9 per cent to at least 33.34 per cent and a maximum of 46 per cent if no other shareholders take up their rights.

Despite the steep fall in Johnson Matthey's share price from 240p before the near collapse of its banking subsidiary two months ago to 68p yesterday, the extraordinary meeting was good tempered and devoid of hostile questioning by shareholders.

Accountancy link cleared

The final external barrier to the merger between Price Waterhouse and Deloitte Haskins and Sells, which would create the world's biggest accountancy firm, was removed when the Department of Trade and Industry said the proposed link would not be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

The DTI ratified the Office of Fair Trading's finding that if the merger went ahead there would still be sufficient choice for users of audit services.

Voting by partners in both firms takes place on December 13 in Britain and will be completed by December 14 in all other offices.

Dilemma for gold market

By Michael Prest

Members of the troubled London Gold Futures Market yesterday decided that, for the time being at least, winding up the market would not solve their problems. But the struggle to find a new identity for the market is far from settled.

Sources on the board said that the smouldering meeting had been called to gauge the feeling of the market. Some 80 representatives of the 38 floor members and 16 non-floor members voted by a show of hands to explore how to keep the market alive.

They face two options, which will be discussed at a board meeting this month and pre-

pared to floor members in January. One, which looks increasingly attractive, is to continue for another year.

The advantages of this course are that 12 months' notice is needed for termination of the lease and that it would allow extra time to write down costs. Optimistic members also hope that the businesses, which have endangered the market, could improve. An alternative is to link up with another market.

But it is understood that the initial enthusiasm for cooperating with the London International Financial Futures Exchange is fading as tax problems emerge.

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

FT Ind Ord	308.4 (-6.5)
FT-A All Share	584.55 (-3.32%)
FT Govt Securities	83.54 (-0.12)
FT-SE 100	1176.34 (-2.1)
Dataseam USM	104.18 (-7.57)
New York	
Dow Jones	1172.25 (+0.68)
Tokyo	
Nikkei Dow	11,558.68 (+16.47)
Hong Kong	
Hang Seng	1120.74 (-15.34)
Amsterdam	377.5 (-1.4)
Skinner AO	727.3 (-10.5)
Frankfurt	
Commerzbank	1087.2 (-5.6)
Stuttgart	
General	159.18 (+8.64)
Paris: CAC	181.4 (-1.1)
Zurich	
SKA General	318.50 (+0.80)

GOLD

London fixing	
\$330.70m-\$330.75	
close \$330.25-\$327.60	\$330.75
274.50	
New York	
Comex (futures)	\$329.70-\$330.80

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:	
Epsley Trust	13 +3
Hallowood Gp	103 +11
Aero & General	365 +35
N Brit Steel	10 +1
G.G. Kynoch	115 +2
KCA Drilling	23 +2
Gestiver	72 +6
Early's Whitby	58 +5
Glynwed	73 +155
Gen Orientale	430 +30
Cluff "A"	75 +5
FALLS:	
Cape Industries	37 -10
Acorn Comp	61 -14
Bio-Oscillates	38 -7
Moray Firth Exptn	7 -1
Target	13 -2
Auto Sec N/P	15 -2
Tramwood N/P	2 -4
Ass Brit Eng	9 -1
Bracken	190 -20
Micron	135 -8
Win Equilon	5 -5
Phisippi Dec	61 -5
Coronation Syn	49 -5
Vales	180 -18

CURRENCIES

London: Cross	
\$: \$1.2065 (+0.0010)	
DM: \$3.7082 (-0.02)	
Sfr: \$3.5375 (-0.0510)	
S: \$11.1357 (-0.0513)	
Y: Yen 297.31 (-0.87)	
£ Index: 74.7 (unchanged) 0	
New York (close)	
\$: \$1.2080	
DM: \$3.6535 (+0.0)	
S: \$142.5 (+0.1)	

INTEREST RATES

London:	
Bank Base: 9 1/2%	
3-month Interbank: 9 1/2%	
3-month eligible bills: 9 1/2%	
buying rate	
US:	
Prime Rate: 11.25-11.50%	
Federal Funds: 9.0-9.25%	
3-month Treasury bills: 9 1/2% (0.00%)	
Long bond: 10 1/2-11%	

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CSX Corporation

(Incorporated with limited liability under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia, United States of America)

Authorized
300,000,000

Shares of Common Stock of U.S. \$1.00 par value

*Including 9,927,339 shares reserved for issue

Issued and reserved
for issue on
14th November, 1984
160,806,600

CSX Corporation (CSX or the Group) was formed in 1980 from the merger of Chessie System, Inc. and Seaboard Coast Line Industries, Inc. The CSX rail subsidiaries provide a full range of transportation services over a 26,000-mile rail system which spans 21 eastern states of the United States of America, the District of Columbia and a Canadian Province. The CSX rail units are America's leading carriers of coal, servicing nearly 20% of the United States coal production. Rail operations contributed 79% of CSX's total revenue in 1983.

CSX substantially expanded its natural resources activities after the acquisition of Texas Gas Resources Corp. in 1983. They now include natural gas transmission and inland barge operations as well as real estate development, aircraft support services and various coal, oil and gas development, exploration and production enterprises.

For the year ended 31st December, 1983 CSX's revenues and net income were U.S. \$5,787 million and U.S. \$272 million, respectively. Revenues and net income for the nine months to 30th September, 1984 were U.S. \$5,879 million and U.S. \$387 million, respectively compared with U.S. \$3,867 million and U.S. \$168 million for the same period in 1983.

The Council of The Stock Exchange has admitted to the Official List all the 160,806,600 Shares of Common Stock of the Company issued and reserved for issue.

Particulars relating to CSX Corporation and its subsidiaries are available in the Extel Statistical Service and copies of such particulars may be obtained during usual business hours on any weekday (Saturdays excepted) up to and including 28th December, 1984 from:

Credit Suisse First Boston Limited
22 Bishopsgate, London EC2N 4BQ

Phillips & Drew,
120 Moorgate, London EC2M 6XP

7th December, 1984

COMMODITIES

Un
W2

1984		Company	Price	Ch'ge
High	Low			
9 1/8	9 1/8

COFFEE		
Jan	2290-2287	Three months
Mar	2290-2287	Tone: Steady
May	2290-2287	Lead
Jul	2290-2287	Cash
Sep	2290-2287	Three months
Nov	2290-2287	Tone: Steady
Dec	2180-2190	20MC STANDARD
Vol	850/1827	
COGNAC		
Dec	230.25-23.00	
Jan	231.75-21.75	Three months
Mar	232.50-21.50	Tone: Steady
May	233.00-21.50	20ND HIGH
Jul	234.00-22.00	Three months
Sep	235.00-22.25	Tone: Steady
Nov	236.00-22.25	SILVER LAR
Dec	236.00-21.00	Cash
Vol	235.00-30.50	
LONDON METAL EXCHANGE		
Unofficial prices:		
Official turnover figures:		
Prices in pounds sterling		
Bullist Wall's & Co., Ltd. report		
20ND HIGH GRADE		
Cash	1099-1097	
Three months	1114-114250	
Vol	5550	
20ND EASTER		
Cash	1112-1114	
Three months	1120-1121	
Vol	NE	
20ND EASTER		
Cash	1120-1121	
Three months	1120-1121	
Vol	180	
20ND STANDARD		
Cash	8555-8550	
Three months	8555-8550	
Vol	180	
20ND STEADY TO QUA		
Cash	8555-8550	
Three months	8555-8550	
Vol	180	
20ND HIGH GRADE		
Cash	8555-8550	
Three months	8555-8550	
Vol	180	
LONDON		
in US \$ per oz		

[illegible]

Business was at a minimum all round the various markets. Optimism about the chances of the new year's rice before the new year has waned in the face of a shaky pound, and the market has nothing to go for in the run-up to Christmas.

Period rates showed only trifling adjustments to overnight levels.

Trade, was confined to the short end of the market where a

Base Rates %	
Canada Prime 9-9½	
France Bank 10½	
Discount Market Loans	
Overnight High 5½	Low 4½
Week forward 5½	

Treasury Bills (Discount %)	
Buying	Selling
2 months 5½	2 months 5½
3 months 5½	3 months 5½

Prime Bank Bills (Discount %)	
1 month 5½	2 months 5½
3 months 5½	6 months 5½-5¾

Trade Bills (Discount %)	
1 month 10½	2 months 5½
3 months 5½	6 months 5½

EURO-CURRENCY DEPOSITS %		
call	6 1/2-6 3/4	
1 month	8 00-8 1/4	
3 months	8 1/4-8 3/4	
6 months	8 1/4-8 3/4	
1 month	7 1/2-8 1/4	
3 months	7 1/2-8 1/4	
6 months	11-10	
1 month	10 1/2-10 3/4	
3 months	11 1/2-11 3/4	
6 months	11 1/2-11 3/4	
1 month	8 1/2-8 3/4	

Britain's first
export agency
is informing
under the law
to two mark

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

	December 1	December 1
New York	\$1,169.5-1,210	\$1,200.0-1,210
London	\$1,679.0-1,653	\$1,635.0-1,650
Amsterdam	\$4,175.0-1,940.8	\$4,175.0-1,940
Frankfurt	\$4,447.0-1,940	\$4,447.0-1,940
Copenhagen	13,920.0-13,974.0	13,931.0-13,931
Dublin	1,187.0-1,191.0	1,183.0-1,187
Paris	\$1,689.0-1,722.0	\$1,689.0-1,722
Leban	198.50-200.35	197.00-200.00
Madrid	\$2,281.50-2,288.50	\$2,281.50-2,288
Madrid	\$2,281.50-2,288.50	\$2,281.50-2,288
Oslo	0.7150-0.7190	0.7035-0.710
Stockholm	0.7150-0.7190	0.7035-0.710
Tokyo	256.91-259.71	257.00-259.71
Swiss franc	1.25-1.26	1.25-1.26
Swiss franc	0.3490-0.3570	0.3490-0.350

Sterling index compared with 1975 was down 10
 points

OTHER STERLING RATES

Argentina peso	183.00-183.00
Australia dollar	1,434.0-1,437.2
Bahian dollar	4,510-4,500
Bahian dollar	4,510-4,500
Cypriot pound	0.7478-0.7575
Finland mark	107.00-107.17
French franc	16.25-16.25
Hongkong dollar	8.4525-8.4525
Indian rupee	14.62-14.62
Israeli drach	
Inquad dollar (KD)	0.3028-0.3065
Italian lire	2,302.0-2,302.0
Mexico peso	22.50-22.50
New Zealand dollar	0.7253-0.4805
South African rand	1.25-1.25
Swiss franc	2.60-2.62
Swiss franc	2.60-2.62
United Arab Emirates dirham	4.5890-4.5890

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1998

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	2558-59	2559-60	2560-61	2561-62	2562-63	2563-64	2564-65	2565-66	2566-67	2567-68	2568-69	2569-70	2570-71	2571-72	2572-73	2573-74	2574-75	2575-76	2576-77	2577-78	2578-79	2579-80	2580-81	2581-82	2582-83	2583-84	2584-85	2585-86	2586-87	2587-88	2588-89	2589-90	2590-91	2591-92	2592-93	2593-94	2594-95	2595-96	2596-97	2597-98	2598-99	2599-00	2600-01	2601-02	2602-03	2603-04	2604-05	2605-06	2606-07	2607-08	2608-09	2609-10	2610-11	2611-12	2612-13	2613-14	2614-15	2615-16	2616-17	2617-18	2618-19	2619-20	2620-21	2621-22	2622-23	2623-24	2624-25	2625-26	2626-27	2627-28	2628-29	2629-30	2630-31	2631-32	2632-33	2633-34	2634-35	2635-36	2636-37	2637-38	2638-39	2639-40	2640-41	2641-42	2642-43	2643-44	2644-45	2645-46	2646-47	2647-48	2648-49	2649-50	2650-51	2651-52	2652-53	2653-54	2654-55	2655-56	2656-57	2657-58	2658-59	2659-60	2660-61	2661-62	2662-63	2663-64	2664-65	2665-66	2666-67	2667-68	2668-69	2669-70	2670-71	2671-72	2672-73	2673-74	2674-75	2675-76	2676-77	2677-78	2678-79	2679-80	2680-81	2681-82	2682-83	2683-84	2684-85	2685-86	2686-87	2687-88	2688-89	2689-90	2690-91	2691-92	2692-93	2693-94	2694-95	2695-96	2696-97	2697-98	2698-99	2699-00	2700-01	2701-02	2702-03	2703-04	2704-05	2705-06	2706-07	2707-08	2708-09	2709-10	2710-11	2711-12	2712-13	2713-14	2714-15	2715-16	2716-17	2717-18	2718-19	2719-20	2720-21	2721-22	2722-23	2723-24	2724-25	2725-26	2726-27	2727-28	2728-29	2729-30	2730-31	2731-32	2732-33	2733-34	2734-35	2735-36	2736-37	2737-38	2738-39	2739-40	2740-41	2741-42	2742-43	2743-44	2744-45	2745-46	2746-47	2747-48	2748-49	2749-50	2750-51	2751-52	2752-53	2753-54	2754-55	2755-56	2756-57	2757-58	2758-59	2759-60	2760-61	2761-62	2762-63	2763-64	2764-65	2765-66	2766-67	2767-68	2768-69	2769-70	2770-71	2771-72	2772-73	2773-74	2774-75	2775-76	2776-77	2777-78	2778-79	2779-80	2780-81	2781-82	2782-83	2783-84	2784-85	2785-86	2786-87	2787-88	2788-89	2789-90	2790-91	2791-92	2792-93	2793-94	2794-95	2795-96	2796-97	2797-98	2798-99	2799-00	2800-01	2801-02	2802-03	2803-04	2804-05	2805-06	2806-07	2807-08	2808-09	2809-10	2810-11	2811-12	2812-13	2813-14	2814-15	2815-16	2816-17	2817-18	2818-19	2819-20	2820-21	2821-22	2822-23	2823-24	2824-25	2825-26	2826-27	2827-28	2828-29	2829-30	2830-31	2831-32	2832-33	2833-34	2834-35	2835-36	2836-37	2837-38	2838-39	2839-40	2840-41	2841-42	2842-43	2843-44	2844-45	2845-46	2846-47	2847-48	2848-49	2849-50	2850-51	2851-52	2852-53	2853-54	2854-55	2855-56	2856-57	2857-58	2858-59	2859-60	2860-61	2861-62	2862-63	2863-64	2864-65	2865-66	2866-67	2867-68	2868-69	2869-70	2870-71	2871-72	2872-73	2873-74	2874-75	2875-76	2876-77	2877-78	2878-79	2879-80	2880-81	2881-82	2882-83	2883-84	2884-85	2885-86	2886-87	2887-88	2888-89	2889-90	2890-91	2891-92	2892-93	2893-94	2894-95	2895-96	2896-97	2897-98	2898-99	2899-00	2900-01	2901-02	2902-03	2903-04	2904-05	2905-06	2906-07	2907-08	2908-09	2909-10	2910-11	2911-12	2912-13	2913-14	2914-15	2915-16	2916-17	2917-18	2918-19	2919-20	2920-21	2921-22	2922-23	2923-24	2924-25	2925-26	2926-27	2927-28	2928-29	2929-30	2930-31	2931-32	2932-33	2933-34	2934-35	2935-36	2936-37	2937-38	2938-39	2939-40	2940-41	2941-42	2942-43	2943-44	2944-45	2945-46	2946-47	2947-48	2948-49	2949-50	2950-51	2951-52	2952-53	2953-54	2954-55	2955-56	2956-57	2957-58	2958-59	2959-60	2960-61	2961-62	2962-63	2963-64	29
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● **PEGLER-HATTERSLEY**: Results for half year to September 29, dividend 5.25p (5p) (figures in £000): Turnover 75,000 (73,830), trading profit 4,700 (4,517), pretax profit 8,377 (7,870) after exceptional debits 154 (debit 308) of which £1 million related to company's 4,921 (2,839) shares issued 91p (820), tax cost 4,004 (3,719) EPS 14.3p (13.6p).

● **BRISTOL OIL AND MINERALS**: The company has acquired a 51% interest in Mainline Resources, which has a contract with Pertamina, the Indonesian state oil company to enhance recovery of oil from the Bunyu Island field, off East Kalimantan. Peak production from the field has risen up to 10,000 barrels a day and is currently at about 3,800/bpd.

● **BOOKER MCCONNELLY**: Booker Agriculture International has acquired 80% of W and F fish products for about £3.1million in cash. In separate transaction BAI purchased Wonderfood Investments, whose wholly owned fish feed production premises occupied by W and F. The consideration was £400,000 in cash.

● **HARRIS QUEENSWAY**: The company plans to store Bakers' Household Stores (Leeds) and the Queensway home textiles division to Poundstretcher, which is 75% owned by Harris Queensway with the remaining 25% owned by Mr Freanley and Mr P F Appleton. The proposal is to sell all of the issued share capital of Bakers' for a consideration of £6.291,049.

● **C. H. INDUSTRIALS**: Results for six months to September 29, dividend 0.45p (0.4p) on increased capitalisation. (Figures in £000): turnover 10,042 (£8,310), operating profit 490 (324), tax profit 503 (317), including associates share 13 (7 debit), tax 35 (29) minorities nil (18 credit), EPS 2.79p (2.15p).

● **G R (HOLDINGS)**: The chairman, Mr A. D. Shawbrook said "The year has seen the solution of problems, not least, the integration of Morlands into the Glastonbury complex, a process which is not yet complete".

● **GROSVENOR PRESS**: Mr John Kinney, the company's chairman, reports "In view of the current level of orders being received, I am cautiously optimistic on the prospects for the current year".

● **CRAMPHORN**: Mr Alan B. Chapman, chairman, says "The conditions for the current year will be as favourable as they were last, but with the steps which have been taken and the present sound base of the business, I am hopeful that the year should show a modest improvement in results".

● **ROUTLEDGE AND KEGAN PAUL**: Results for the six months to September 30, (figures in £000): turnover 1,200 (1,233), trading profit operating profit of 131 (26) net interest at 47 (75), pretax profit totalled 105 (49). Earnings per share rose to 9.1p (from 4.4p). But not

interim dividend (nil) is being paid but Shares rose to 251p up 5p.

● **EDBROS HOLDINGS:** An interim dividend of 2p (same) is being paid. Results for the six months to September 30 (figures in million pounds) indicate sales of 9.2 (9.0), trading profit of 1.1 (1.2), and pretax profit of 1.1 (1.1) after interest charge of 0.1 (0.1). Earnings per share were 1.1p (1.2p). Shares slipped to 117p down 5p.

● **FINE ART DEVELOPMENTS:** Results for the six months to September 30, (figures in £000) indicate a turnover of 123.580 (138.505), operating profit of 2.376 (1.349) and pretax profit of 463 (155). Earnings per share were 0.535p (0.198p). Shares were unchanged at 46p.

● **INTERIM DIVIDEND:** An interim dividend of 1.1p (same) is being paid.

● **THE SCOTTISH AND MERCANTILE INVESTMENT:** The chairman, Mr Dennis Poore, says that the company's outlook remains promising. Political developments in both Britain and the USA appear favourable to economic progress and with it to the investments of shareholders' company's investments."

Central and Sheerwood Results for the six months to June 30 (figures in £s) show a turnover of 37,588 (40,520) and group trading profits of 595 (916). The chairman, Lord Sainsbury, says that the group's position is likely to be held steady in the second half and is the first time the expectation that the group will return to profitability in 1985. No dividend has been declared. Shares slipped to 74p, down 1/2p.

● **GIBBS MEW:** Results for the six months to September 30 last (figures in £000) show group turnover of: 837.1 (-866.0), net profit of 394.4 (484.3), and an extraordinary dividend of 10.2 (nil). Group profit before tax totalled 494.6 (£484.5) with tax at 16.0 (145.0). Earnings per share slipped to 4.2p (6.1p). Shares were unchanged at 42p.

● **KEYSTONE INVESTMENTS:** A final dividend of 6p (same), and a final extraordinary dividend of 1p being paid. Results for the 12 months to October 31 last (figures in £000) indicate a total income of 1.505 (1.8) and pretax revenue of 1.278 (1.045) with tax at 444 (361). Net dividend value per share is 428p (347p adjusted).

● **FAIRLINE BOATS:** A final dividend of 1.5p (1p) making 2.625p (1.75p) is being paid. Results for the 12 months to September 30 (figures in £000) indicate a turnover of 6.398 (5.201), pretax profit of 402 (246) and extraordinary earnings per share of 7.2p (4.4p). The chairman states that the current year has started well with strong demand for all Fairline models. Exports are currently accounting for over 70 per cent of production.

● **GRESHAM HOUSE:** Results for the six months to June 30 (figures in £000) show dividend and total income of 148 (162), rental income of 472 (468) and profit from subsidiaries at 183 (96). Total profit was 801 (725) with pretax profit at 185 (63) after administrative expenses and interest of 616 (665). Earnings per share were 3.6p (3.0p). Shares were unchanged at 215p. An interim dividend of 1.4p (same) is being paid.

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INDUSTRY TODAY

Undeclared war being waged for the ECGD

Britain's troubled export agency is labouring under the burden to two masters

Mr Paul Channon, the Minister of State for Trade, will give evidence on Wednesday to the House of Commons Trade and Industry Committee investigating the Export Credits Guarantee Department (ECGD), an organization best known for suddenly plunging £400 million into debt to the Treasury after 65 mostly profitable years of insuring British exports.

He has arguably made the committee's questions redundant by announcing last month that he was rejecting (much to the disappointment of the CBI) the advice of the Matthews Committee to turn ECGD into a public corporation.

But interest in ECGD has remained high. The questions many industrialists would like to ask Mr Channon are: "Are you having a battle with Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, over ECGD funding?" And: "Are you going to win?"

Sir Raymond Lygo, managing director of British Aerospace, virtually asked them this week. He told MPs that, in partnership with the French, Germans and Italians, he has orders worth £400 million waiting to be signed by Turkey for 40 Tornado fighter aircraft and seven Airbus, with an option on seven more - worth another £140 million.

He is likely to lose the order, he explained, because ECGD is not being allowed to provide the usual 85 per cent cover, unlike other European countries' credit agencies.

The Government's advice is that 50 per cent ECGD insurance will be there - but only if the private sector finds the other half. Banks and insurers, Sir Raymond said, run away from military aircraft deals (such planes are not recoverable assets if the customer government is overthrown) and do not like the exceptionally long-term financing required for civil sales.

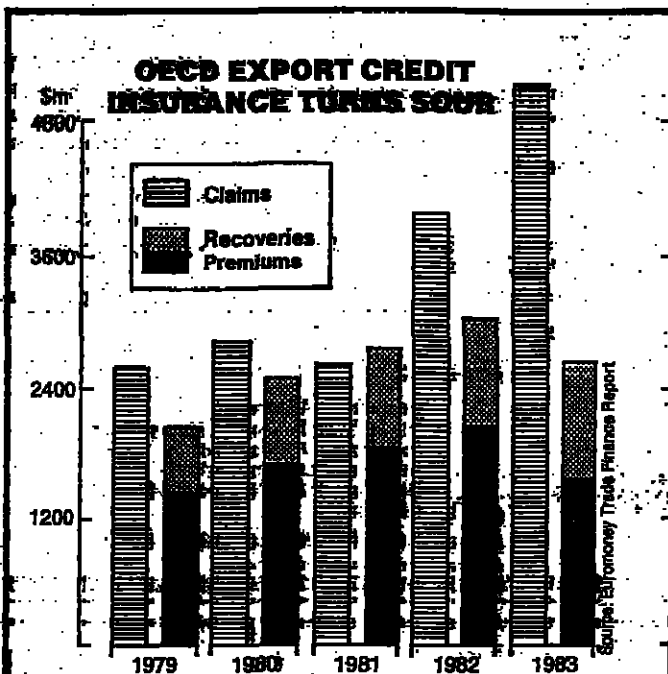
"Unless British Aerospace was prepared to take the recourse onto its own balance sheet, which it is not prepared to do, the order will be lost," Sir Raymond said.

He agreed that it is "absolutely right" that, having lost round one in the battle to sell Turkey, Boeing would then win round two.

Sir Raymond is president of the Society of British Exporters and Companies which has 300 members. His industry generates 2 per cent of GNP, 8 per cent of manufactured exports and an annual trade surplus on its own goods of about \$1.3 billion a year.

He feels that he ought to be heard and wrote to Mr Lawson to say so. He was told to take his case up with Mr Channon.

In that answer lies the problem created by ECGD's mandate to promote imports at no net cost to the taxpayers. It has been given two masters with apparently differing ideas.



"ECGD's problem is not of its own making," Sir Raymond said. "They have to get industrial export credit approval. I believe that a major concern exists within the Treasury. I believe that the DTI is prepared to take what I regard as a more realistic view of Turkish creditworthiness, in line with our view. Like any other citizen, we have right of access to the Chancellor - if he will accept it."

There is an undeclared tussle going on between the DTI (which theoretically controls ECGD) and the Treasury (which funds it and which, at present, appears to have the whip hand).

Big project contractors felt its impact last week. They were told that, if they want insurance against exchange rate losses incurred in the lengthy period between bidding for and winning a foreign currency contract, it will cost them up to almost four times as much.

The fact that ECGD has 80 bids, potentially worth £3 billion, currently insured is a measure of British contractors' desperation to go for any business, rather than a buoyant market. The higher premiums, which will cost them millions each time they bid for something like a power station, will they have to pay Government, make them uncompetitive.

ECGD has every one of its loss-making facilities under review. Currently being closely scrutinized is the External Trade Scheme - which largely guarantees deals done by the purchasing community for goods which go from one country to another without touching British shores.

Industry argues that the Treasury insistence on looking at ECGD's balance on a year-by-year accounting basis, when it has to insure deals of up to eight years - is a recipe for private insurers would have to suffer.

Another former ECGD specialist, Mr Donald Ward, general secretary of the Export Union, the club of 42 state and private credit insurance, last month told *Euromoney Trade Finance Report*: "In the good old days, nobody realised we

could lose money in this business." Sir Raymond said: "They have to get industrial export credit approval. I believe that a major concern exists within the Treasury. I believe that the DTI is prepared to take what I regard as a more realistic view of Turkish creditworthiness, in line with our view. Like any other citizen, we have right of access to the Chancellor - if he will accept it."

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TEMPUS

Bass pulls away in brewery stakes

Bass's full-year figures probably mark a milestone in British brewing. What has been a surprise for some years is fast becoming a fact - the group has stolen an unassailable lead in the sector.

Profits ahead by 25 per cent on a sales gain of just 13 per cent look attractive, but the underlying trading position is even more compelling.

Sales of lager, the high margin money-spinner, now account for about 46 per cent of Bass's brewing business, an improvement on 1982-83.

This gives the company just over a quarter of the United Kingdom lager market, up by one percentage point. Ale sales for 1983-84 were maintained, which implies an improvement in market share of about 1/2 point.

Putting the figures another way, Bass's sales gain includes price rises of about 7 per cent, which in turn assumes a volume improvement of about 5 per cent.

The sector average volume gain was 1/2 per cent. Allied-Edwards, was about in line with this, while Whitbread definitely dipped below it.

The group's flow of funds statement is equally revealing. Funds generated totalled £360 million, but working capital needs fell some £5 million, after a squeeze on stocks. Thus, even after £180 million of capital expenditure, net liquidity improved by nearly £50 million, latest charges fell £3 million.

Again, this position is in marked contrast to Bass's main competitors, where gearing has been rising. This in turn constrains freedom to manoeuvre. Significantly, Bass has not closed a brewery for five years.

The gap between Bass and the rest may widen again this year. It plans to tunnel away at the competition via £60 million of capital spending on pub refurbishment, rather than price cutting, and returns here must come through fairly quickly.

Equally, brewing analysts must, for the time being, find it well-nigh impossible to recommend any other stock but Bass as the core holding in the sector, a useful increment to the credit rating, as the group prepares to spend £200 million on hotel acquisitions.

London's shift to a two-tier market will only exaggerate the disparity between Bass and the rest. The shares closed 3p ahead at 431p.

Hanson Trust
The relentless rise of Hanson Trust continues. Even by its own high standards, Lord Hanson's bricks and batteries to stores and engineering combine surpassed itself in the year to the end of September.

Pretax profits rose from £91.1 million to £169.1 million. The group's last two big acquisitions, London Brick and US Industries, helped but even after stripping out a first-time contribution net of financing costs of about £20 million, the underlying rate of growth is still 64 per cent.

It would be silly for Hanson to be modest about such a performance. Even so, the statement accompanying the figures was perhaps a little over-the-top.

It said: "The company is dedicated to entrepreneurial growth and the board is confident that its unremitting attention to the philosophy which has been so successful for 21 years will continue to bring rewards for shareholders in 1985 and the year ahead."

Self-eulogies apart, it is difficult to find fault with much Hanson is doing at the moment. If proof were needed of the Hanson magic, just look at the figures for British Ever Ready, which was perhaps the outstanding group performer last year.

BOC
BOC has limbo-danced its way out of the troubled welding business by taking losses of £36 million below the line (as well as £6 million losses pre-tax), and these in turn are more than covered by £50 million plus of extraordinary profits. Gearing is about 44 per cent, and swollen by currency translation effects.

Nevertheless, the quality of BOC earnings in 1984-85 looks slightly superior. Cases, still two-thirds of group profits, enjoyed a marvellous year on the back of the US economic recovery.

The health care side looks solid enough, but the best boost for the group would undoubtedly come from a dollar devaluation. At 252p, the shares must benefit from an easier money policy from the Federal Reserve.

Ferranti
Ferranti's relentless surge onward and upward continued yesterday with the announcement of another 25 per cent increase in interim profits to £18.5m. Over the last five years it has averaged a growth rate of 30 per cent, putting its larger companions in the electronics sector in the shade.

While some of the big players have seen growth slowing, and order books shrinking, Ferranti is able to report the opposite. The order book is 25 per cent up on last year and now stands at a record level, more significantly, the orders are coming in across the range of its activities.

Ferranti still refuses to provide a breakdown of divisional performance at the interim stage, but it has clearly been a period of improvement on all fronts. Production problems in the electronics division appear, however, to have been overcome and its result was a big factor in the first half growth.

Talk of a takeover for the company, should there be a restructuring within the electronics sector, now seems misplaced. The strength of the shares shed just 2p on the announcement of the results down to 178p. They do look expensive, but it is hard to find a company in the sector which can better Ferranti's prospects. Any rewards will be in the long, not short, term.

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Index slips on growing fears of bank cash call

By Derek Pain and Pam Spooner

Fears that a leading bank is about to launch a rights issue helped to unsettle the stock market yesterday. Shares of the big four clearers fell, with Barclays, the favourite to seek more cash, lowered by 8p to 519p.

Ever since the Bank of England toughened the rules on what constitutes bank equity and loans, there has been a growing feeling that a cash call is imminent. With the long-running British Telecom flotation completed, the way is clear for one of the banks to replenish its coffers.

The Budget also took its toll of bank balance sheets, and in July National Westminster beat its rivals to the punch when it announced a £236 million rights issue.

Midland last raised cash from shareholders in August last year when it pulled in £155 million.

Penny & Giles International, the high technology engineering group, starts life on the USM next week after a placing of 23.5 per cent of its shares at 130p each by Quilter Goodson, the stockbroker. Most of the 2,115,384 shares sold come from existing shareholders. About 376,923 new shares are being sold to raise £30,000. At the placing price Penny & Giles, which is known for its development of the "black box" flight recorder, is valued at £11.7 million, on a price/earnings ratio of about 22 at the standard tax rate.

Royal Bank of Scotland raised £41.5 million in April. Lloyds, which has the healthiest of the bank balance sheets but may still feel obliged to seek more cash, fell 12p to 497p. Nat West dropped 12p to 564p and Midland 8p to 559p.

Lloyds also came in for extra market attention as City men tried to work out the timing of the bank's reduction of its stake in the Royal Bank of Scotland. Just a year ago Lloyds increased its holding from 16 per cent to 21 per cent, and subsequently became embroiled with the Department of Trade, which took a dislike to Lloyds's actions. As a result, the big bank promised in June to cut its stake to 16 per cent "within a reasonable period".

Analysts believe the end of that "period" must be close, and the thought knocked Royal Bank shares 8p lower to 226p. It is thought that Lloyds would like to find one buyer for the 5 per cent chunk, but if that cannot be done the market must eventually see a steady stream of shares coming through.

A Lloyds spokesman said: "We never comment on market rumour."

Equities suffered another dull day with the FT 30-share index declining 6.5 points to 1008.4 points. It had been down 8.2 points earlier.

The more broadly based FT-SE share index was 7.1 points down at the close. Since the euphoria which accompanied Monday's Telecom launch, shares have looked decidedly faded. The FT 30-share index has now fallen for the third full day of BT's stock market life.

Telecom shares again enjoyed an active session, but closed 1p lower at 88p. In the opening burst they touched 97p.

BT, although successfully launched, continues to dominate market sentiment. The institutional buying which was forecast to follow the sale has so far been absent.

There was in fact considerable selling in early trading yesterday. But a fine array of company results - such as Bass and Hanson Trust - eased the pressure which had in part been due to worries about the American economy and the recent poor Wall Street showing.

Government stocks displayed little life, hovering around their overnight levels.

Glyndwr, in a depressed engineering section, rose 13p to 155p following the sale of its South African offshoot, LRC International, responded to a brokers' talk-in with a 6p gain to 115p.

Bass, after dipping to 412p on its year's figures, gathered strength as the day progressed, closing at 436p, an 8p rise on the day.

Prices on the USM pitches were looking blood-stained by the end of the day, with computer and high technology stocks particularly battered.

The Spillage followed the announcement from Acorn Computers that it is withdrawing from US market because of poor sales since the venture began in autumn 1983.

Acorn had hoped to take as much as 10 per cent of the American home computer market with its BBC micro, but met many difficulties, including fierce competition from Apple, the US computer maker which was already well-established in the educational sector.

Yesterday Acorn's share price tumbled 14p to 61p - a long way off the 120p striking price when the company came to the stock market 14 months ago.

Other share prices suffered in sympathy, with Microvite, which began a bulk sales push in the United States this summer, falling 8p to 135p. The company produces computer peripherals, such as display screens and power units.

Applied Computer Techniques, a fully-listed share, was knocked back 7p to 255p. ACT also recently initiated a big marketing effort in the US for its Apricot personal computers.

Wordplex, a computer software producer which joined the full market earlier this year, has already announced a restructuring of its operations in the US, and showed the effects of market concern with a 10p loss to 170p. That makes a 20p fall in two days does not

compare well with the 285p stinking price set in May. At Aeronautical & General Instruments there was mixed news. Alongside the interim results, the company revealed a bid approach. Nothing more is being said at the moment, but the shares were soon talking. They rose 50p to 373p at one stage, but later settled for a 35p rise to 358p. The trimming came when market men looked at the half year profits at AGI. These were heavily down, at £46,000 against £346,000 in first half 1983. Again, there is no interim dividend.

Johnson Matthey closed 3p down at 68p. The Charter Consolidated rescue package was approved yesterday. Charter's other worry, Cape Industries, tumbled a further 10p to 37p and Charter itself lost 10p to 170p.

Goring Kerr, the electronics group spun off from last year, continued to enjoy American support and gained 15p to 435p, a record.

The revitalized Arthur Guinness and Sons could produce profits of up to £70 million, against £58.8 million, in the year to last September, say Mr Neil Scours and Mr Tom Corran at Fielding, Newson-Smith, the stockbroker. Guinness shares fell 3p to 176p yesterday.

Northern Foods, following its US sale and ahead of next week's interim results, advanced 8p to 210p. The market is not expecting much excitement. About £23.5 million seems the average expectation against last year's £26.4 million half-time figure.

Exco International, the burgeoning financial supermarket, fell 10p to 533p despite news that the group has secured another piece in its global jigsaw. It is paying \$10 million (£8.3 million) for a 40 per cent stake and a chunk of loan capital in Blackman Garlock Flynn & Co., a California merchant bank specializing in real estate.

Body Shop did its bit to push down the USM index. The shares lost 20p yesterday, to 400p, still on the back of adverse comment.

Other main losers on the secondary market included Cornhill, down 10p to 208p, Miss World, 10p lower at 195p, and Spring Ram, which fell 7p to 166p. By the close, the Datastream USM index showed a 1.97 point loss to 104.18.

An 86 per cent profits surge and scrip issue left Hanson Trust 9p better at 276p, but BOC Group's figures pushed shares 3p down at 252p. Great Universal Stores "A" on better-than-expected results gained 5p to 625p.

Worries that the cement price increase may be postponed trimmed Blue Circle Industries 8p to 455p.

Oil shares rallied after it became known that the British National Oil Corporation would allow more North Sea oil to flow through to the spot market.

Gresham House, the investment group, rose 18p to 225p following tripled profits.

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

1 MONTHLY INCOME SCHEME
Minimum Investment £200
1 monthly income of £10.00 per month
1 monthly bonus of £1.00 per month
1 monthly dividend of £1.00 per month
1 monthly interest of £1.00 per month
1 monthly profit of £1.00 per month
1 monthly loss of £1.00 per month
1 monthly gain of £1.00 per month
1 monthly total of £1.00 per month

6 MONTHLY INCOME SCHEME
Minimum Investment £200
6 monthly income of £10.00 per month
6 monthly bonus of £1.00 per month
6 monthly dividend of £1.00 per month
6 monthly interest of £1.00 per month
6 monthly profit of £1.00 per month
6 monthly loss of £1.00 per month
6 monthly gain of £1.00 per month
6 monthly total of £1.00 per month

3 YEAR INCOME SCHEME
Minimum Investment £200
3 monthly income of £10.00 per month
3 monthly bonus of £1.00 per month
3 monthly dividend of £1.00 per month
3 monthly interest of £1.00 per month
3 monthly profit of £1.00 per month
3 monthly loss of £1.00 per month
3 monthly gain of £1.00 per month
3 monthly total of £1.00 per month

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Increased Turnover and Profits

	1984	1983
Year ended June 30	£m	£m
Turnover	13.9	13.3
Profit before tax	1.32	1.21
Profit after tax	0.82	0.74
Earnings per share	8.0p	7.2p

Mr S. Beckman, Chairman, reports:

- Policy of concentrating management skills in textiles while strengthening our asset base through investment in property will continue.
- Income from properties has increased beyond our original estimates.
- Dividends for the year are maintained at 5.73p per share. With tax credit total is equivalent to 8.19p.

Copies of the Annual Report are available from the Secretary, 71-73 Great Portland Street, London W1N 5FA.

Abaco buys mortgage broker
By Cliff Feltham

Abaco Investments - the former Greencoat Properties - took another step towards creating a mini financial services group yesterday when it took full control of John Charcol, one of Britain's largest mortgage brokers, in a deal which will involve a total outlay of £2.8 million.

Mr Tim Razall, the Abaco chairman who first took a 20 per cent stake in Charcol in the spring, says it is arranging £150 million of mortgages a year, putting it in the same league as the top 20 building societies.

Charcol, set up 10 years ago by Mr John Garfield and Mr Charles Whitart who will stay on to run the business, is expected to make profits before tax of about £480,000 in the present year against £150,000 before.

Charcol - which fixes mortgage rates of between £30,000 and £300,000 and earns income from insurance linked advances - has a mortgage advisory service and two estate agents, with plans to open others.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	9 1/2%
Adam & Company	9 1/2%
Barclays	9 1/2%
BCCI	9 1/2%
Citibank Savings	9 1/2%
Consolidated Loans	9 1/2%
Continental Trust	9 1/2%
C. Hoare & Co.	9 1/2%
Lloyds Bank	9 1/2%
Midland Bank	9 1/2%
Nat Westminster	9 1/2%
TSA	9 1/2%
Williams & Glyn's	9 1/2%
Wibank NA	9 1/2%

1 Mortgage Rate Note

* 1 day deposit of sum of order £10,000, 70% £10,000 up to £50,000, 7 1/2% £50,000 and over, 9%

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Comparative Consolidated Profits (unaudited)

	Half Year Ended 30th September 1984	1983
Turnover - outside group (excluding V.A.T.)	1,036,497	951,314
Profit before taxation (after charging depreciation £36,813,000 (last year £29,022,000))	105,107	92,232
Deduct: Taxation (1984 - estimated effective rate for year (1983 - actual rate for year))	44,150	37,640
Profit after taxation	60,957	54,592
Deduct: Minority interests Preference dividends of Parent Company	28	45
Profit after taxation attributable to the ordinary stockholders	60,894	54,512
Earnings per stock unit	24.32p	21.77p
Interim dividend declared	6.25p	5.5p

The dividend amounts to £15,649,000 (last year £13,764,000) and will be paid on 29th March, 1985 to ordinary stockholders on the Register at the close of business on 21st February, 1985.

6th December, 1984.

This advertisement is issued in compliance with the requirements of the Council of The Stock Exchange in London. It does not constitute an invitation to the public to subscribe for or purchase any shares.

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GOLF

FOOTBALL

Ballesteros resists challenge of Faldo

Deserter Revie poised to find an oasis at Loftus Road

FA YOUTH CUP: Second round: Woking 1-0 Watford 2.
 Second round: Altrincham 0-1-5-Rugby 3.
 Cheltenham 3, Moor Green 1.

RUGBY LEAGUE
JOHN PLAYER TROPHY: Second round replay: St Helens 24, Bradford Northern 10.
FIRST DIVISION: Hull 6, Leeds 10.
 Brighton 1. Postponed: Chelsea v Birmingham.
OTHER MATCH: Cambridge University 1, Cambridge United XI 3.
BASKETBALL

SHOOTING
PEKING: Pistol (women): 1. Li Yingzi, 593 points (world record).

ICE HOCKEY
UNITED STATES: National League (NHL):
Edmonton Oilers 8, New York Islanders 4;
Ronchetti Cup: Pál Avellán 73, BSE
Budapest 66.
UNITED STATES: National Association (NBA):
Boston Celtics 113, Philadelphia 76ers 107.

fourth place on the fifth day of transatlantic Columbus route and is now just 40 miles behind Boston Celtics 123, Denver Nuggets 107, Philadelphia 76ers 112, Milwaukee Bucks 111, Los Angeles Lakers 104, New Jersey Nets 88, Los Angeles Clippers 110, Dallas Mavericks 108, Kansas City Kings 121, Atlanta Hawks

WEDNESDAY'S FOOTBALL RESULTS

SCHOOLS MATCH: Wellingborough 1, Brentwood 2.

night members of grass roots clubs and earning commission of at least £1 million for

FA VASE: Second round, replay: Barnhamsted 1, Baldock 0
FA YOUTH CUP: Second round: Woking 1, Watford 2

Law Report December 7 1984

Queen's Bench Divisional Court

Proof of knowledge of absence of licence required

Westminster City Council v. Croxall and Laidlaw and Another. Before Lord Justice Robert Goff and Mr Justice McCullough. [Judgment delivered November 29].

Where a person was charged with knowingly permitting premises to be used as a sex establishment without the grant of a licence by the local authority, contrary to paragraph 20(1)(a) of Schedule 3 to the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982, it was necessary for the prosecutor to prove that the accused knew not only that the premises were being used as a sex establishment but also that no licence had been granted.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held, dismissing an appeal by way of case stated by Westminster City Council from the dismissal by Mr Ronald Barle, Bow Street Stipendiary Magistrate, on December 29, 1983, of (1) two informations alleging that Croxall and Laidlaw had on two days in February 1983 knowingly permitted the use of premises at 4 Peter Street, Soho, as a sex establishment without the grant of a licence by the council under Schedule 3 to the 1982 Act; and (2) two informations alleging against Mr Charles Grech that the offence alleged against Croxall and Laidlaw had been committed with his connivance, he being a director of the company, whereby he as well as the company was guilty of the offence.

Paragraph 6(1) of Schedule 3 to the 1982 Act provides that no person shall use any premises as a sex establishment except in accordance with the terms of a licence granted by the appropriate authority.

Paragraph 20(1) provides: "A person who—(a) knowingly uses, or knowingly causes or permits the use of, any premises, contrary to paragraph 6... or (c) being the holder of a licence under this Schedule, without reasonable cause knowingly contravenes, or without reasonable cause permits the contravention of, a term, condition or restriction specified in the licence... shall be guilty of an offence."

Mr John Samuels, QC and Mr Roger McCarthy for the council; Mr John W. Rogers, QC, for the defendants.

LORD JUSTICE ROBERT GOFF said that the court had to answer the question whether, in order to constitute an offence contrary to section 2(1) of the 1982 Act, it was necessary for the prosecutor to prove that the defendant knew that no licence had been obtained, although, as Mr Justice Devlin had said in *Roper v. Taylor's Central Garage (Exeter) Ltd* [1951] 2 TLR 2841, such knowledge could often be proved by showing that a defendant had deliberately shut his eyes to the facts and had failed to make reasonable inquiries.

Mr Justice McCullough delivered a concurring judgment. Solicitors: Mr Terence F. Neville; Irwin Shaw.

There was nothing in the 1982 Act to persuade his Lordship that he should not apply the ordinary principles of construction. It was necessary for the prosecutor to prove that the defendant knew that no licence had been obtained, although, as Mr Justice Devlin had said in *Roper v. Taylor's Central Garage (Exeter) Ltd* [1951] 2 TLR 2841, such knowledge could often be proved by showing that a defendant had deliberately shut his eyes to the facts and had failed to make reasonable inquiries.

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Car Buyer's Guide

General

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AUDI 200 Turbo (1982). Metallic blue, sunroof, electric windows, radio/cassette £5995

AUDI 100 CD (1983) Silver, alloys, usual extras £8995

BMW 735i (V). Black, grey interior, electric roof, electric windows, alloys, well above average £7995

BMW 323i 82 Black, all possible extras £7995

BMW 635 CSI 1981 Met. blue, many extras £10,995

DAIMLER VANDEN PLAS (1982) Model All possible extras, met. blue, dark blue velour interior, pristine £9950
JAGUAR XJ6 4.2 1980. White, air conditioning, electric seats, bargain £5250

JAGUAR 4.2 1980 Sunroof, cruise control, barqain, sunshine roof, air cond £4750

VOLVO 265 GLE (1982) Model Leather interior, air conditioning, adjustable air suspension, electric windows, like new £6995

VOLVO 244 GL (X). Metallic blue, interior blue, sunroof, immaculate throughout £4650

MERCEDES 280 SE Met silver / green, sunroof, very good condition throughout £5750

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ROVER SDi 2600 S (W) 1981. Metallic gold, brown cloth interior, electric windows £2200

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After a thorough briefing, it's into a Leica Coupe with an instructor at the wheel. It's a thrill to spend two hours demonstrating racing lines, braking points and the intricacies of the 'heel and toe' technique before handing over to the student who'll be marked out of 200 on his or her performance. Just to add to the excitement, the student will be given a 1000cc 1600cc 2000cc 2400cc 2800cc 3000cc 3200cc 3500cc 3800cc 4000cc 4200cc 4400cc 4600cc 4800cc 5000cc 5200cc 5400cc 5600cc 5800cc 6000cc 6200cc 6400cc 6600cc 6800cc 7000cc 7200cc 7400cc 7600cc 7800cc 8000cc 8200cc 8400cc 8600cc 8800cc 9000cc 9200cc 9400cc 9600cc 9800cc 10000cc 10200cc 10400cc 10600cc 10800cc 11000cc 11200cc 11400cc 11600cc 11800cc 12000cc 12200cc 12400cc 12600cc 12800cc 13000cc 13200cc 13400cc 13600cc 13800cc 14000cc 14200cc 14400cc 14600cc 14800cc 15000cc 15200cc 15400cc 15600cc 15800cc 16000cc 16200cc 16400cc 16600cc 16800cc 17000cc 17200cc 17400cc 17600cc 17800cc 18000cc 18200cc 18400cc 18600cc 18800cc 19000cc 19200cc 19400cc 19600cc 19800cc 20000cc 20200cc 20400cc 20600cc 20800cc 21000cc 21200cc 21400cc 21600cc 21800cc 22000cc 22200cc 22400cc 22600cc 22800cc 23000cc 23200cc 23400cc 23600cc 23800cc 24000cc 24200cc 24400cc 24600cc 24800cc 25000cc 25200cc 25400cc 25600cc 25800cc 26000cc 26200cc 26400cc 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Car Buyer's Guide

Motoring by Peter Waymark

Rescue for refined automatic transmission

The news that the Dutch Government has decided to rescue the Van Doorne Transmissions company may turn out to have much more significance for motorists in Britain than might at first seem apparent.

It is a tangled story, at the heart of which is an automatic transmission for cars called CVT which could bring about a revolution in motoring habits if it ever gets into production.

The CVT, continuously variable transmission, is a development of the belt-driven gearless automatic pioneered for DAF cars. Since DAF's absorption by Volvo of Sweden it has been used in successive small Volvo models, including the current 300 series.

Similar in principle, the CVT employs a more durable steel instead of a rubber belt and has several other refinements. It is particularly suited to small cars, many of which do not offer an automatic option; and claims to have eliminated the main drawbacks of conventional automatics, heavier fuel consumption and inferior performance.

Van Doorne Transmissions, a joint venture to exploit CVT involving the Dutch Government, Volvo, Fiat and the American transmissions manufacturer, Borg-Warner, was formed in 1979. Two years later Borg-Warner was so enthusiastic about progress that it forecast the CVT making manual gearboxes "virtually obsolete".

Nothing much more was heard until October 1983, when Fiat announced a CVT version of its Uno model, to be called the Unomatic, with production due to start in the middle of 1984. It also said that the transmission would be used on other Fiat and on Lancia models later.

Fiat had tried the CVT on the Ritmo (Strada) range with encouraging results and introduced further modifications for what it termed "the current definitive version". Performance was as good as on cars with manual gearboxes, with pick-up even better, and the traditional fuel consumption penalty had also disappeared.

Meanwhile, another big manufacturer, unconnected with Van Doorne Transmissions, was becoming interested. Ford, the Fiesta, Ford's smallest model, had never had an automatic and was an obvious candidate. Ford planned to make the CVT, at its factory in Bordeaux with Van Doorne supplying the belts and pulleys.

All was set for the Fiesta CTX to appear this autumn. A further twist was that Fiat, though still committed to the Unomatic, started to have doubts about the ability of its Italian



Leading the diesel boom: Ford Sierra Estate

home market to provide sufficient demand to justify a separate CVT manufacturing facility.

Italian motorists do not like automatic cars, preferring to make gear changes. The take-up of automatics in Italy is 1.5 to 2 per cent of new cars sold. Fiat therefore approached Ford to see whether Borg-Warner could make transmissions for the Uno.

The number of cars sold in Britain with automatics is higher than in Italy, but still only about 10 per cent, a proportion that has remained almost constant for more than a decade. The reasons for this lack of enthusiasm include inferior performance and fuel consumption, both of which CVT seems to have cured, and higher cost.

It is too soon to speculate on what CVT might add to a car's price, though it is conceded that there will be a penalty. It will depend partly on how many CVT units are made; but since high volume would be helped by a low price, the CVT might be locked in a vicious circle.

Neither the Unomatic nor Fiesta CTX appeared as scheduled, provoking jokes about continuously variable launch dates. It emerged that Van Doorne was in financial trouble, and there was a serious blow to the project when one of the original backers, Borg-Warner, decided to pull out.

Borg-Warner still affirmed its faith in the concept but was disappointed at the lack of customers, many other car manufacturers had been approached, and Van Doorne stood on the brink of bankruptcy. There were rumours of Japanese interest, but eventually the Dutch Government agreed to buy the Borg-Warner shareholding and provide a bridging loan.

A further injection of money will be needed to guarantee Van Doorne's survival but the worst may be over. Ford's latest estimate is that

the Fiesta CTX may be out this time next year; Fiat is giving no promises about the Unomatic. Watch this space!

Road Test: Sierra Diesel Estate

Though the British diesel car market is small compared with many on the Continent, it is starting to take off in a significant way. Total sales this year are expected to be about 36,000, nearly 50 per cent up on 1983 and double that of two years ago.

This rapid expansion is being led by Ford, which has more than one third of the market and makes the best-selling diesel model, the Sierra. One diesel car in five sold is a Sierra.

It is a good time, therefore, to look at the diesel Sierra, available in saloon and estate forms and powered by a 2.3 litre unit, a Peugeot design with indirect fuel injection. As usual with diesel, the decisive advantage in fuel economy has to be weighed against inferior performance reticence.

The engine does project something of the characteristic diesel clatter, during warm-up and continues to rumble and grumble at tickover and low speed. But once into its stride, that is quickly forgotten and on the open road the car cruises as happily, and with no greater assault on the ear-drums, as a similarly sized petrol model.

As for performance, the figures (see panel) may look unimpressive on paper and the acceleration time is slightly worse than a Mini's. But of more value to the average driver is the ability to pull away strongly in high gear and hold its own on the motorway. The car passes both tests admirably.

On fuel consumption, the diesel's superiority is beyond doubt, particularly in town driving. A useful

comparison between this model and the two-litre petrol Sierra over the objectively tested urban cycle - the diesel wins by 33.6 mpg to 26.9. My overall returns, in mixed driving with four occupants and luggage, was an excellent 40 to 43 mpg.

An aid to good consumption is the five-speed gearbox, which like all Ford transmissions is a delight to use, with well-spaced ratios and crisp, clean changes (apart from a trace of notchiness on the way down from third to second). Diesel is also cheaper than petrol, by about 10p a gallon.

Though the greatest benefit is to the high mileage company driver, rather than the private motorist, the Sierra diesel does make sense as a family car. There are times, notably when trying to overtake, when more power would be welcome; and away from city centre it can be difficult finding a garage which stocks diesel. Against this the tank is big enough (just over 13 gallons) to give a range of at least 400 miles.

The Sierra as an estate, despite Ford's decision to eschew the supposedly space-saving device of front-wheel drive, is roomy inside, with ample head and legroom for

Vital statistics

Model: Ford Sierra 2.3GL diesel estate
Price: £8,320
Engine: 2304 cc, four cylinder
Performance: maximum speed 96 mph; 0-60 mph, 18.6 sec
Official consumption: urban 33.6 mpg; 56 mph 56.3 mpg; 75 mph 42.3 mpg
Length: 14ft 9ins
Insurance: group 3

backseat passengers, and offers a generous luggage area with little intrusion from the wheelarches.

The load area can be greatly expanded by folding down the rear seat and creating a platform more than five-feet long. The rear seat has a useful 60/40 split so that the car can be used for various permutations of passengers and cargo. The tailgate comes down to floor level.

Heavy duty suspension has been fitted at the back to cope with the extra weight an estate is likely to carry. The suspension system, all independent, is a marked improvement over that of the Sierra's predecessor, the Cortina, though not as finely tuned as on some rivals.

The tendency for the car to wallow at times, and for rough surfaces to cause chopiness in the ride, is the only serious criticism of a well-designed, practical efficient vehicle.

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2. Rolls-Royce Corniche Convertible
3. Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow II's
4. Rolls-Royce Silver Wraith II's
5. Rolls-Royce Silver Spirts
6. Rolls-Royce Corniche Saloons
7. Rolls-Royce Camargue
8. Rolls-Royce Phantom VI Limousine
9. Rolls-Royce Silver Spurs



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Rolls-Royce and Bentley

1983 JANUARY ROLLS ROYCE SILVER SPIRIT

Full service history 15,000 miles in Forest Green with running trim.

23,995 one Sealed (0762) 346288

SHADOW 76

Mountain green, beige hide upholstery, 41,000 miles, 21.4.000.

0865 739346

February 1984 ROLLS ROYCE CORNICHE

8,000 miles, all extras, 567,000

Tel. (0967) 2109

ROLLS ROYCE SILVER SHADOW II 1979

14,000 miles, with blue leather, FSH, 21,500

(0501) 40267

Car can be seen in London

SILVER SHADOW 73, 21,700 miles, FSH, 21,700. Tel. 06134 6234

SILVER SHADOW 73, 21,700 miles, FSH, 21,700. Tel. 06134 6234

1980 ROLLS ROYCE Silver Shadow II 5.1 owner from new, covered in leather, 11,000 miles, 21,500. Tel. 025 5501

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Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries by Peter Dear and Peter Daville

BBC 1

- 6.00 **Cee-fax** AM. News headlines, weather, traffic and sports bulletins.
- 6.30 **Breakfast Time** with Seline Scott and Nick Ross. News from 6.30 to 7.00, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00, sport at 8.45 and 9.20, Jan. 1985: regional news, weather and traffic at 8.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; programme choice at 8.55; a review of the morning newspapers at 7.18 and 8.18; Alan Titchmarsh's gardening advice at 7.32; plus Mike Smith with the latest video and pop news; Lynn Faulds-Wood's consumer report; and guest Tommy Trinder.
- 9.00 **John Marshall's Everyday** Year 10; the Standing Leg Grip.
- 9.10 **Masquerade**, introduced by Magnus Magnusson from the Royal Military College of Science at Shrivenham. In this, the third semi-final, Neville Cohen answers questions on the life of Isaac Newton. Katherine Healey on the life of Queen Victoria; Rachel Leonard on the life and work of Jane Austen; and Kate Vernon-Parry on the life and work of Beatrix Potter (r) 9.40 **Cee-fax**.
- 12.30 **News After Noon** with Moira Stuart and Frances Cowdell. The weather prospects come from Jim Bacon; 12.57 Regional news (London and SE only); Financial report followed by news headlines (with subtitles).
- 1.00 **Puzzle Mill** at One with guests, singer Tony Bennett, Jill Cravshaw who examines the pros and cons of shopping trips across the channel, and Peter Steel on the Poshie Mill garden.
- 1.45 **Little Misses and the Water Men** (r).
- 2.00 **Racing from Cheltenham**. John Wilson introduces coverage of three races - the Foodcrackers, the St. James's Place, and the St. James's Place. The St. James's Place (2.15) the Embassy Premier. Stepheane Quillier (2.50); and the Coral Golden Hurdle Quillier (3.20). 2.45 Regional news (not London).
- 3.50 **Play School**, presented by Elizabeth Milsken (4.10) **The Family-Ness**; 4.15 **Jackanory**. Penelope Keith reads the story of the Princess and the Frog (r); 4.30 **Benji**; 4.45 **Hardback**. Tony Hart with Joanne Kelly examines construction lines underneath epics.
- 5.15 **Crackles** presented by Stu Francis with guests who include the Kane Gang and Keith Harris with Orville. 5.58 **News** with Sue Lawley and Nicholas Witchell.
- 6.00 **London Plus**.
- 6.55 **Cartoon**: Tom and Jerry.
- 7.05 **Blankety Blank**. Les Dawson's panel consists of Stan Boardman, Henry Kelly, Bonnie Langford, Bertie Reed, Beryl Reid and MP, Cyril Smith.
- 7.40 **What a Carry On**. A compilation of clips from the successful series of Carry On films.
- 8.05 **Berganza**. A jewel thief who happens to be a pretty woman arrives on Jersey at the time of an important jewel auction. Unbeknown to Berganza she is only on holiday and leads a policeman on a merry dance - until a large diamond is stolen in the middle of the auction (r) (Cee-fax).
- 9.00 **News** with Julia Somerville.
- 9.25 **The Secret Servant**. Part two of the three-part thriller starring Charles Dence.
- 10.20 **Film** North Dallas Forty (1979) starring Nick Nolte. American football drama about a player who has seen better days. Directed by Ted Kotcheff (first showing on British television).
- 12.20 **Weather**.

tv-am

- 6.25 **Good Morning Britain** presented by Anne Diamond and Mike Morris. News with Gordon Honeycombe at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00, sport at 8.45 and 9.20; Jan. 1985: regional news, weather and traffic at 8.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; programme choice at 8.55; a review of the morning newspapers at 7.18 and 8.18; Alan Titchmarsh's gardening advice at 7.32; plus Mike Smith with the latest video and pop news; Lynn Faulds-Wood's consumer report; and guest Tommy Trinder.

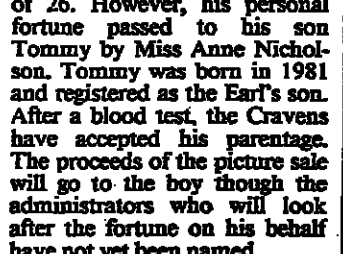
ITV/LONDON

- 9.25 **Thames news headlines**. 9.30 **For Schools**: Middle English. 9.45 **Rayways**. 10.05 **Machine** that makes work. 10.25 **Producing a television programme**.
- 10.50 **Cartoon Time**.
- 11.00 **Farmhouse Kitchen**. Authentic craft making advice from Prys Wickhamphill. 11.30 **Crown Court**. The first part of the trial of the man who shot and killed a woman. 12.00 **Twelve and Twelve** (r) 12.10 **Rainbow**. Learning with puppets. 12.30 **News**. 12.57 **Regional news**. 1.00 **News**. 1.45 **Little Misses and the Water Men** (r).
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BBC 2

- 9.00 **Cee-fax**.
- 9.30 **Film**: *Cabin in the Sky* (1949). An all-black musical starring Ethel Waters, Lena Horne, Louis Armstrong and Duke Ellington and his Orchestra. Vincente Minnelli chose this musical, based on the Faust legend, as his introduction to direction.
- 9.55 **News summary** with subtitles.
- 10.00 **Fred: Fred Dibnah** ends his series discussing points raised by earlier programmes and by what he does best - tooting his chimney (r).
- 10.05 **Micro Life**. Lesley Judd and Chris Palmer play computer games from the oldest to the latest. Ian McEwan-Davies attempts to create a digital Christmas card, and talks to King Cinnamon percussionist, Bill Burford, about electronic drum kits; there is a report from New York on a computer system for making animated cartoons; and there are suggestions for Christmas presents for the computer buffs who have everything.
- 10.10 **Choir of the Year 1984**. Orwin Arwel Hughes introduces six choirs who are singing for three places in the semi-final of the competition organised and run by Sainsbury's. From St David's, Llandudno.
- 10.15 **Three in the Wild**. Part one of a two-part story of a man, the Dartmoor Pony, born during a storm but safe under the protection of his father, the lead stallion - until the father has an accident.
- 10.20 **Call My Bluff**. Arthur Marshall, Rosemary Leach and Robert Powell challenge Frank Muir, Sara Green and Melvyn Bragg to a test of words.
- 10.30 **Italiani**. A profile of Mauro Flamini, communist shop steward at Alfa Romeo's Milan factory during the week, who is a radical at work and a conservative at home.
- 10.40 **News**. 10.55 **News**. 11.00 **News**. 11.15 **News**. 11.30 **News**. 11.45 **News**. 12.00 **News**. 12.15 **News**. 12.30 **News**. 12.45 **News**. 1.00 **News**. 1.15 **News**. 1.30 **News**. 1.45 **News**. 1.55 **News**. 2.00 **News**. 2.15 **News**. 2.30 **News**. 2.45 **News**. 2.55 **News**. 3.00 **News**. 3.15 **News**. 3.30 **News**. 3.45 **News**. 3.55 **News**. 4.00 **News**. 4.15 **News**. 4.30 **News**. 4.45 **News**. 4.55 **News**. 5.00 **News**. 5.15 **News**. 5.30 **News**. 5.45 **News**. 5.55 **News**. 6.00 **News**. 6.15 **News**. 6.30 **News**. 6.45 **News**. 6.55 **News**. 7.00 **News**. 7.15 **News**. 7.30 **News**. 7.45 **News**. 7.55 **News**. 8.00 **News**. 8.15 **News**. 8.30 **News**. 8.45 **News**. 8.55 **News**. 9.00 **News**. 9.15 **News**. 9.30 **News**. 9.45 **News**. 9.55 **News**. 10.00 **News**. 10.15 **News**. 10.30 **News**. 10.45 **News**. 10.55 **News**. 11.00 **News**. 11.15 **News**. 11.30 **News**. 11.45 **News**. 11.55 **News**. 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Lethal chemicals, page 5



The matter was the subject of an article in *The Times* last Monday after allegations that dealers had formed a ring at a sale at Houdesham in India.

The choice was probably made according to how each MP, accurately or inaccurately, is generally regarded, something which happens to them remarkably soon after they are elected. So Mr George Labour, was presumably representing the Queen. Mr John Stokes, Conservative, for being a gentleman. Others for being bounders. Mr Peter Tapsell, Conservative, for being brave; others for being cowards.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, "U.S. Census Bureau Reports that U.S. Economy is Stronger than it Appears," *U.S. Census Bureau News*, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672

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